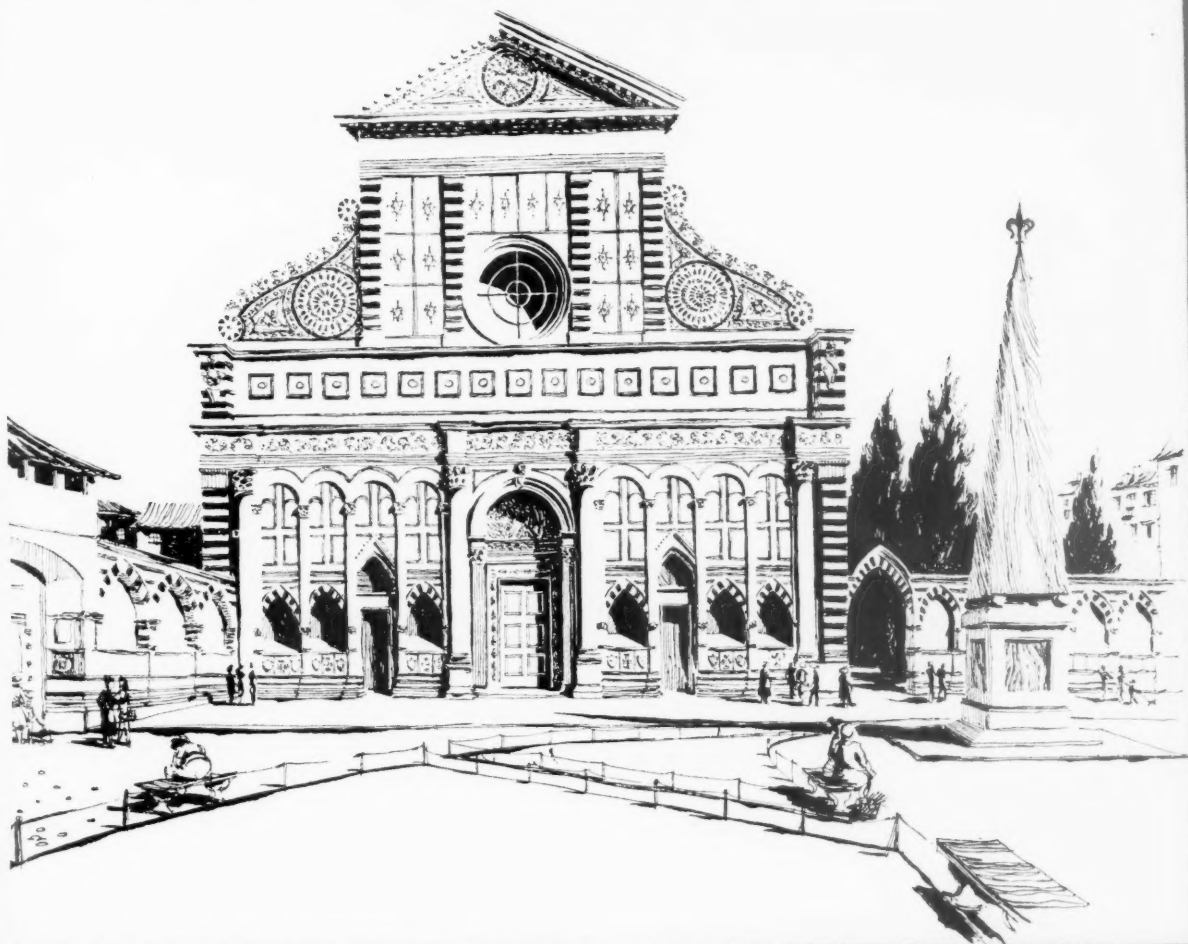


RD SERIES VOL 61 NUMBER 1

NOVEMBER 1953

# THE JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS

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*Santa Maria Novella, Florence. From a drawing by Norah Glover [A]*

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# THE JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS

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NOVEMBER 1953

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## The 1954 R.I.B.A. Dinner

The Royal Institute's Dinner is to be held on Friday 19 February at Grosvenor House. Tickets are 32s. 6d. each exclusive of wines, cigars, etc. The President and Mrs. Robertson will receive guests from 7 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. Evening dress with orders and decorations, or uniform will be worn. The names of speakers will be announced later.

Because the dinner is being held in February and the Conference in May, there will be no R.I.B.A. reception in 1954.

## Historic Buildings Councils

On 27 October the Minister of Works announced in the House of Commons the appointment of Historic Buildings Councils for England and Wales. These Councils, established under the Historic Buildings and Ancient Monuments Act 1953, are to advise the Minister on the exercise of his powers in making grants for the repair or maintenance of buildings of outstanding historic or architectural interest, their contents and adjoining land, and where necessary to acquire them, or to assist the National Trusts or local authorities to acquire them.

Sir Alan Lascelles is chairman of the Council for England and the membership includes Professor Sir William Holford [F], Mr. Christopher Hussey [Hon. A] and Mr. John Summerson, C.B.E. [A]. Captain G. C. H. Crawshaw is chairman of the Council for Wales and among its members is Mr. S. Colwyn Foulkes [F].

Applications for grants in respect of appropriate buildings in England should be made to The Secretary, The Historic Buildings Council for England, Lambeth Bridge House, S.E.1, and for those in Wales to The Secretary, Historic Buildings Council for Wales at either St. Agnes Road, Gabalfa, Cardiff, or Lambeth Bridge House, S.E.1.

## R.I.B.A. Collection of Photographs of Architects' Work

In his Inaugural Address the President referred to the collection of photographs which the Royal Institute is making, the scheme for which was announced in the September JOURNAL. So far this scheme has met with less response than was expected. Its success must depend on individual members submitting illustrations of their work. It has several purposes; one is to form a record of smaller and lesser-known buildings throughout the country which are not generally illustrated in the technical press; another is to provide more material for lectures, exhibitions, etc. In the President's words, 'By having available an up-to-date collection of this kind, we can advance the interests of architects in general.'

## Sessional Paper on 2 March

In place of the paper which Professor Charles Madge was to have given on 2 March, there will be a paper, *English Villas and Venetian Decorators*, by Mr. F. J. B. Watson, F.S.A., Deputy Keeper of the Wallace Collection.

## Coronation Pictures Exhibition

The Ministry of Works have on public exhibition in Whitehall Gardens (the new government office designed by Mr. Vincent Harris, C.B.E., R.A. [F]) the pictures and drawings of the Coronation which are to be hung in Her Majesty's embassies and consulates at home and overseas. These have been bought out of a fund which was started by the Minister in 1952 and which is fed by private subscriptions. Also on view are drawings for the Abbey annexe and schemes of street decorations by the Chief Architect's Department of M.O.W. The centrepiece of the exhibition is the huge model of the Coronation processional route showing all the buildings, stands and decorations.

## An Allied Society Exhibition

We have received the catalogue of a Coronation Year Exhibition of the work of architects in Wiltshire and Dorset. This exhibition has been prepared by the Wilts and Dorset Society of Architects and its purpose is stated in the excellent little foreword of the catalogue as 'Now that restrictions are being relaxed, the members of the public who propose to build should be aware of what the architect has to offer. . . . The 330 exhibits show work of all kinds, including schools and other buildings by official architects and the third prize drawings in the Coventry Cathedral Competition. This excellent collective effort at publicising the work of local architects in their own area is being shown at Dorchester, Salisbury and Swindon.

## The Conference on Tropical Architecture

The Proceedings of the Conference on Tropical Architecture, which was held at University College, London, in March of this year and attended by more than 200 persons, are to be published. In addition to reports of the papers and discussions there will be special articles on subjects relating to tropical architecture. There will be 75 pages of text and 60 illustrations. Copies, price 10s., can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, Conference on Tropical Architecture, 10 D'Arbly Street, W.C.1.



#### Four Forthcoming R.I.B.A. Exhibitions

The exhibition illustrating the life and work of Charles Rennie Mackintosh will be on view in the Foyer at the R.I.B.A. from 11 to 23 December inclusive. There will be no ceremonial opening but Dr. Thomas Howarth [4] will introduce a discussion on Mackintosh at a meeting of the Library Group on 10 December.

An exhibition entitled 'Fire Protection Research' is to be shown in the Foyer from 10 to 25 February. This has been prepared by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research and illustrates the work of the Joint Fire Research Organization. There are nine sections or stands illustrating work on statistics and causes of fire, ignition, spread of fire, extinguishing, structural fire resistance and behaviour of materials.

In the early spring of 1954 an exhibition of photographs of Italian villas in the province of Veneto is to be shown. Details will be announced later.

Negotiations are proceeding for the showing in the late spring of an exhibition on the Rebuilding of Warsaw.

#### Contemporary Spanish Architecture

The first exhibition of contemporary Spanish architecture to be shown in England was displayed this month at the Building Centre, all the exhibits being photographs of buildings of which most were erected during the last 15 years. A few examples of historic Spanish architecture were included to serve as a background to the contemporary architecture shown in the rest of the exhibition.

In recent years there has been considerable activity in building and planning developments in Spain, especially in the Madrid area, where new residential and industrial areas are springing up as complete units with new roads, schools, churches and recreational buildings. Extensive planting of trees and the creation of new parks have formed an important part of these projects.

Some 80 new villages have been built, and although displaying those differences in character to be expected at the hands of different architects, yet they conform generally to a standard rectangular plan set in open country and are self-contained with a central square, schools with recreation grounds, churches, club rooms and other amenities. In addition to these achievements practically the whole of the fishing villages round the coasts of Spain have been rebuilt.

#### Facilities for Sketching

In a letter to the Institute the Right Worshipful the Mayor of Bath refers to visits paid to the city by architectural students for the purpose of sketching interesting features; visits that are made without previous notification to the city authorities.

Although the students are very welcome to come and sketch as they like, the Mayor feels that if they made their coming known beforehand it would perhaps be possible to give them additional facilities; indeed, he is good enough to say that he would like to welcome them personally, if forewarned.

This kindly gesture and suggestion will be appreciated by students, and they would do well to take advantage of them as they can then be told of buildings or features, tucked away perhaps in some back street, that they would not otherwise know of or notice. It is, of course, in getting permission to go inside certain buildings to sketch and measure that the sympathetic help of the authorities would be most useful, and there is no doubt that such help would be readily forthcoming, not only in Bath but elsewhere, if the need for it were made known. Those students wishing to take advantage of this offer should write to the Right Worshipful the Mayor of Bath, Guildhall, Bath.

#### The Air Forces Memorial at Runnymede

In the article published in the September JOURNAL on the work of the Imperial War Graves Commission we omitted to say that the sculptured figures of the eagles and the dove were the work of Mr. Esmond Burton.



#### An Allied Society Badge

The Hertfordshire Chapter of the Essex, Cambridge and Hertfordshire Society of Architects have provided themselves with a new Chairman's badge by means of a competition open to members of the Chapter. Mr. H. Conolly [F] and Mr. H. D. Matthew, M.B.E., M.C. [A], acted as assessors and Mr. H. J. Coates [A] as competition secretary. The winner was Mr. G. A. J. Mathers [A]. The badge, in silver and enamel, bears the County arms on the obverse and the R.I.B.A. badge on the reverse. It was made by Mr. F. Newland Smith, A.R.C.A. (Lond.), D.A. (Manc.).

#### The Architects' Benevolent Society

Members are reminded that the Annual Ball of the A.B.S. takes place on 9 December, i.e. within a fortnight of the publication of this JOURNAL. Tickets have been selling well and those who intend being present but have not yet bought their tickets should not delay their application. Tickets are £2 2s. each including supper and can be obtained from the Hon. Organising Secretary, c/o Mr. C. J. Epril [F], 55 Pall Mall, S.W.1. The committee would welcome gifts for use as prizes on the side-shows, in particular 'bottled goods'.

The sale of A.B.S. Christmas cards is proceeding briskly although at the time of writing the Building Exhibition is yet to come, when it is hoped the majority of the cards will be sold. They can also be obtained at the offices of the A.B.S. or by post. Illustrations of the cards and full particulars of the scheme were given in the September JOURNAL.

Also available is 'The Architect's Aid', a table for rapidly computing room areas presented by Mr. R. Henniker [F] who devised it for use in his own office. It is printed on linen-backed paper to withstand frequent handling. The price is 5s., post free, 5s. 9d. in cardboard roll. In case commercial firms would like to buy quantities for distribution, a space has been provided on the sheet for the overprinting of their names and addresses.

#### R.I.B.A. Diary

TUESDAY 8 DECEMBER. 6 P.M. General Meeting. *Building Without Grace: An Aggressive Examination*—Siegfried Charoux, A.R.A.  
WEDNESDAY 9 DECEMBER. 8.30 P.M.—2 A.M. A.B.S. Ball. Dorchester Hotel.

THURSDAY 10 DECEMBER. 6 P.M. Library Group Meeting. Discussion on C. R. Mackintosh introduced by Dr. Thomas Howarth [A].  
FRIDAY 11 DECEMBER—WEDNESDAY 23 DECEMBER. Exhibition of the work of C. R. Mackintosh. Mon.—Fri. 10 a.m.—7 p.m. Sat. 10 a.m.—5 p.m.

THURSDAY 24 DECEMBER. 12.30 P.M.—TUESDAY 29 DECEMBER. 9.30 A.M. R.I.B.A. offices closed for Christmas holiday. (The canteen will not be open on Thursday 24 December.)

WEDNESDAY 30 DECEMBER and FRIDAY 1 JANUARY. 3 P.M. Christmas holiday lectures for boys and girls of 13 and upwards. *Designing a Town*—The Hon. Lionel Brett [F].





# Inaugural Address of the President

Mr. Howard Robertson, M.C., A.R.A., S.A.D.G.

Given at the R.I.B.A., 3 November 1953

THE FIRST INAUGURAL ADDRESS of a new President has at least some possible element of excitement. The man is fresh to his job—who knows? Perhaps he will utter something worth while. The second address is more painful. We have heard the fellow too often already, and after one year of office he is probably dead beat, but in any case is likely to be properly muddled. Who would not be, after having had a taste of the problems that constantly pour into Portland Place?

My address, as you will shortly discern, is an expression less of fact than of strictly personal impressions and thinking. I am permitted on this occasion to speak as an individual, aware that a large body of opinion within this Institute will disagree with me; but there have been many things on my mind, things which concern us all, and if I put some of them before you tonight it is because I am coming to you on the basis that a patient comes to a psycho-analyst. Just let the patient relax and go on talking, and perhaps he will feel some relief as a result!

If this were an ordinary sessional paper I would have to choose a title for it. I would hesitate between 'Troubled Waters', 'Random Roamings', and 'Muddled Musings'. I think you are beginning to grasp the general idea.

First, I want to speak about this sort of architecture which represents the main stream of our present-day output. By that I mean the buildings which rank for illustration in our technical press and architectural books. Broadly speaking, it ranges from the neo-Georgian to those buildings which are abreast of all up-to-the-minute developments here and abroad. I am purposely over-simplifying to make my point.

And now I am going to try to be constructively critical, and suggest that in a great deal of this work certain deficiencies are being revealed. Not technically, but aesthetically.

To come straight to the point, I feel that our contemporary buildings for all sorts of purposes risk becoming too much alike in their expression; the same formula for design, employing the same motives, basic forms, and treatment of façade in mass and detail, is widely applied to all problems. Of course variations of treatment exist in plenty, and size and bulk play their part. But broadly speaking the buildings for various purposes are getting to resemble each other astonishingly, and so is the work

of many architects whose basic thinking is on rational parallel lines. This applies both to the neo-Georgians and the extremists. Each in their category are acquiring the family face. In many architectural schools the same thing happens, but to a more extreme degree; though, of course, the neo-Georgian trend is in many of the schools practically non-existent.

What has happened becomes, I think, more apparent when one looks back at the work of the more distant past, particularly on the spot and not in photographs. There one sees that the best old work reveals immense personality, a character developed in the handling and treatment of form which springs from some deep root of feeling about architectural art. Great daring and technique are often exhibited, and risks were taken that are truly surprising in relation to the methods, materials, and the resources of the epoch. But the technique was not as a rule the mainspring of inspiration, and was seldom flaunted for its own sake. The designers of those buildings felt something and felt it deeply. They had a certain grandeur in their approach, even to quite small things. Their sense of response to human emotion seems to have been both natural and acute.

They had something of what a born orator or a preacher possesses, an ability to touch the chords and stir the emotions, the sort of basic warmth which is found in the music of the favourite classic composers. Perhaps the gift was there subconsciously, absorbed from the spirit of the age those people lived in. But however it came to exist, this ability to make the form and treatment of buildings communicate an emotion, a sensation, has indubitably been present in all great periods. And it is something quite different from the astonishment and wonder of a great engineering enterprise and achievement, although it is in some cases allied to it.

I believe these great successes of the past move people today in a genuine way, and not merely because the buildings are old. They say something in stone and brick to which people instinctively respond. These buildings very often come to be beloved by anyone ranging from antiquarians to our latest Royal Gold Medallist, who has proclaimed himself at heart a traditionalist.

Clearly there must have been economic troubles in those days as well as now, though perhaps both Church and State and the great patrons were willing to stretch a point where our own ministries and local

authorities would merely whistle the treasurer out of his kennel to bite the architect on the leg. In other words, we cannot claim that a certain brittleness, uniformity and desiccation which show signs of attacking our contemporary architecture are entirely due to lack of funds, though austerity has certainly bred a habit of mind which is comfortably defensible.

Through over-stressing of engineering, false pride in structure, over-anxiety to follow my latest leader, reluctance to draw upon the great and rich vocabulary of form and surface of the past, we risk producing an architecture which will finally cease to attract the public, and will be respected chiefly for its neatness and tidiness—the very qualities which can be found in a well-designed mechanism. Fine qualities, but in architecture insufficient.

By and large, people seem always to seek in music a theme, and never cease to love a tune. Let all of us architects remember that. If the young architect can discover what it is that lies at the core of the vitality of the best work of the past and the present, he will be much further advanced than he would by wobbling between the rigidities of Chicago and the latest extravagances from Brazil. The subject is a vast one. It should properly be included in the 'Delight' section of a theory treatise.

And so, having scattered these thoughts to the winds, I now pass from architecture to architectonics, from the art itself to the system and some of the many things which control our professional life.

'Professional.' I have used the word automatically. But there are people, important people, who would invite us to quit our professional status and step boldly out into the commercial world. There has been considerable speaking and writing on this subject, and some of you may have read and remembered an able article in *THE ECONOMIST* of 25 July this year, entitled 'The Architect's Dilemma'. In this article the writer says that 'the idea of the architect as standing between the owner and the builder is of doubtful relevance to the needs of a new age'. He also says that 'to re-assert his leadership, it is held, the architect must again become the master-builder, a man with a technical training adequate to make him practical and at home in modern technical developments'.

I believe that the first thesis is unsound because it is premised on the idea that this is, in fact, a new age, whereas I think it is

only a stage in the usual evolution; accelerated no doubt, but not necessarily demanding the abandonment of fundamental principles which in this particular case are the very basis of our service to the community. Sound principles, in architecture or in business, are established by long experience of trial and error. Attacks on these principles are never dormant. But if we are convinced of their soundness we would be mistaken to abandon them because we thought the world had changed. Superficially it may have; but fundamentally the professional classes have always stood for trust in accordance with inviolable codes. Architects as a bulwark against malpractice would soon disappear if they tied themselves irrevocably to commercial interests and abandoned their independent status.

This is not to say that the field within which we work should be unduly circumscribed. We should be in a position to render the fullest service to industry and commerce as well as to our normal clients. The means for achieving this, within the framework of our basic principles, is a matter for sympathetic examination individually and by our Institute. If the principle is right, we should be able to find a way, and THE ECONOMIST is justified in suggesting that we must adapt ourselves. But not to the extent of throwing overboard our ethical charter.

On the second point of THE ECONOMIST, the architect becoming again the master-builder, the man with the adequate technical training, one might reply that nowadays there is no such person as the master-builder. There are impressive firms of contractors, organisations with directors at the top, keen-faced men in bowlers half-way down, and at the base huge teams of men who dig, run miniature railways, and operate the bulldozers and those machines that claw up a whole tree and deposit it just where the architect one moment before was standing. The nearest to the idealised master-builder is probably the smaller family concern, or the all-round country builder. But that can hardly be what THE ECONOMIST had in mind.

'Master-builders' today are teams of men embracing many departments. The architect is at their service, if they want him. No single man in the master-builders' firms knows everything about the job. The strength of such firms, apart from their finance, is the quality of the directors and the employees. These firms are business organisations that build. It is their life-time job, and it takes all their time. They are not fitted to do architects' work, and they know it. No more can architects do their work. Designing and planning and supervising are one thing, and the great organisations employing labour for erection are another. Only people unfamiliar with what actually occurs, and must occur, in building practice, could confuse the two issues, apart perhaps from dreamers who are bemused by the lure of the very words 'master-builder' and the visions they conjure up.

To turn to the point of the architect and

his adequate technical knowledge, the real facts are that no single architect could possibly retain, even if he could absorb, the full range of present-day techniques. But the architect, *vis-à-vis* his client, is a man with a balanced firm behind him. In that architect's house are many architects of varied qualifications. That is where the strength lies, exactly as it does with the builders.

It is perfectly fair to say that an active practising architect today knows as much about technology as any human brain can hold without the risk of stultifying imagination. It is broadly a certainty that excessive factual cramming is a deterrent to creation. And even some of the most imaginative engineers are men who have willingly become a little hazy over detail and calculations. But they have the great ability to spot what is fundamental, and go for first things first. That is what a good architect should do and does, and it is in fact the key to the success of many of the greater names in architecture today; namely an ability in certain fundamental directions, the awareness of their own limitations, and the capacity to engage qualified collaborators.

It has been suggested that the answer to highly efficient design and building is early collaboration between architect, builder, engineer and quantity surveyor. I believe this to be true, particularly for large or complicated buildings. At least one public authority is trying out a pilot scheme along these lines, and we will surely find that others will investigate this method, which does not necessarily preclude competition. But I do not believe that the American type of 'package service', with everything provided including design, will be the ultimate answer in this country. After a time I think the 'package' will be found, like certain Christmas hampers, to include increasingly some things which are not too good. And since all service must be paid for somehow, I do not see a real reason for not selecting the best of each in the open market, which is the basis of our present system.

Efficient collaboration in all sections of our work is, I am sure, the best answer to efficient design and supervision. Specialist consultants have a great and growing contribution to make, and if they were of no use they would soon cease to exist. No trade firm can quite replace them, and the fact that they are kept hard at work from beginning to end of complicated jobs shows that for these they are really required. Furthermore, as technology advances, they present the advantage of being able to suggest mixtures of systems of construction and mechanical services which can easily save more than their fees, in addition to giving a more economical and much smoother-looking job.

A great deal of work, in terms of money, may be represented by consultants' work in a large project. A heavy responsibility therefore lies at their door, in the effort to reduce the cost of building by an ever-increasing efficiency and constant regard for the clients' pocket—and here one is

assuming that the best consultants need the reminder of this fact.

But the question of arranging employment and payment for consultants is not in every case satisfactorily solved. Our scale provides for it, but clients, particularly public bodies, tot up the total of the professional fees and find them very large. So they often want to dispense with consultants. A commercial firm will bargain quite willing to pay a very high cost for a pattern or a special design, but in individual building it is not sufficiently recognised that a design is often in fact a prototype and nearly always special. In the vast majority of cases the money spent on fees secures a worthwhile economic service. The question is how to ensure that this axiom be more widely accepted.

Our scale of fees provides in a readily workable way for the remuneration of consultants, and though many minds have considered the possibilities of alternatives there has been no solution offered which is free from drawbacks.

One suggestion that has been put forward on many occasions is that the architect should be able to quote an all-in fee to include all consultants which the project can justifiably require. Immediately there is a difficulty, in that the fee for all-in service would almost certainly be higher. On the other hand some business clients might not object to this, provided that it eliminated all those extra additions which one is bound to ask for at present. Further, there will be certain buildings for which full consultant service is not required, and so immediately would be introduced another complication, namely a variable in the all-in fee.

The whole thing bristles with difficulties which is not to say that they are insoluble. One suggestion is that we should consider a scale whereby we classify our work in categories, starting perhaps with simple utilitarian non-fire-proof buildings, housing, etc., and passing through two categories such as halls, libraries, simple commercial buildings, schools for higher education and town halls, medical centres and complete industrial buildings respectively, to end up with a category of buildings of exceptional character requiring great skill in design and prolonged study in development. In this category one might place, for example, the majority of hospitals.

These various categories would be A, B, C, D and the architects' fees would be based on the category and the expenditure within that category; or in other words fees would be graduated. Any difference of opinion with a client as to category would probably have to be settled by an Institute ruling, transmitted where necessary by an Allied Society. The exact classification of building types might prove to be difficult in practice and yet it would be useless unless it were generally accepted. (For the moment one is excluding small domestic buildings and the partial service that may be all that is required for some of them, as being a category probably best dealt with separately.)

The basic idea of fees on classification and cost is not wholly new, and I believe that a fee scale along these lines has been recommended by a joint committee of architects of New England, U.S.A. It is always conceivable that fees based in this way on different building types, the service requirements for which can vary widely, might be a practicable and fair basis for arranging an all-in rate to the satisfaction of the architect, the services consultants, and the clients; with the advantage that all could visualise where they stand without endless arguments about who pays for what.

I have touched on this matter of fees as an illustration of the kind of problem which is always in front of the Institute. We have to watch trends and developments, and adjust ourselves to them, and at the same time not make impulsive and drastic changes without being certain where we are going. Which is really to say that basic questions like the scale have to be kept alive and under constant review, like all other important matters of Institute policy.

To move now to the purely business side of the profession, the private architect who has to finance his office is greatly handicapped by a system of taxation which makes no provision for ploughing back funds to carry his future commitments. Tax and super-tax are paid in full by each partner, and the available working capital is provided by the back-log of fees still owing. The salaried or official architect does not face this particular brand of anxiety.

It has sometimes been averred that the private architect is at a disadvantage in the service he can render as compared with his officially employed brother in that he does not dare to experiment with new methods and materials. This is true to the extent that if a private architect has a local failure in the one job handed out to him, he may not get another, and prudence suggests that he act the more cautiously in consequence. The official architect with a large programme can follow up certain lines of research and venture upon a few experiments, since any disappointments are absorbed in the large field of successful buildings. Of course his responsibilities are very heavy, and his difficulties and frustrations not to be minimised, but at least he has sound finance behind him. If the Tucker Report, or some other inquiry, could make equitable recommendations for the case of the private professional man, one might find that he too would take greater risks, more could be spent on research and development, and ultimately a still more skilful service could be rendered.

The increase in the number of salaried and official architects has been fairly steady; they number more than half our membership. But one thing to my mind is certain, namely that if the private architect were to disappear the standard of recruiting to big public offices would be adversely affected over the long term. Private architecture is an excellent nursery for young architects, one reason being that respon-

sibility is direct, and the scope extremely varied, while contact with the seniors is in most cases personal and intimate. And the private architect has not only to execute work, he must seek it and find it. That is a very salutary condition for the development of initiative and enterprise, and the young architect who watches a practice develop is truly in touch with the realities of a very competitive world.

In stating this belief, I am in no way decrying service in public office, either as assistant or principal, for such service presents opportunities which are often unrivalled. And we must not fall into the error of neglecting such questions as the general conditions of service of salaried and official architects as well as their full representation in all Institute affairs. There is little danger of our doing so, though on the surface it may sometimes appear that the problems of the private architect are receiving first priority. This is almost certainly due to a general feeling that the field of private architecture is subject to encroachment from several directions, and at all costs should be cultivated and protected as an excellent training ground and as a necessary complement and stimulus to public service.

To keep private architects alive and flourishing it is, of course, desirable that they should share to a reasonable extent in the programmes of the State, especially in times of restriction and control, and tribute has rightly been paid on many occasions to the furtherance of this principle by official architects and the public bodies whom they serve. But the private architect has to be active in his own interests, and it is by no means easy for him to bring his talents and service to the notice of his possible clients. The Institute Council, through its recent publications and exhibitions promoted by the Public Relations Committee in particular, has shown itself to be well aware of the need for publicising the cause of good architecture, and has followed with interest the action taken by such sister bodies as the American Institute, which has decided upon a campaign of publicity for the profession which will cost a good deal of money and is funded by its members.

Our conditions here are somewhat different, the great size of the United States requiring special measures. But the interesting fact remains that a greater degree of publicity is considered desirable, and there we are surely in agreement, as our exhibitions and other publicity measures amply demonstrate.

Many of us consider that the soundest bid for popularity is the combination of excellent service at fair rates and buildings whose appeal is founded on a broad basis, buildings agreeable in themselves and mindful of their surroundings even if sometimes at the expense of personal aesthetic convictions. The fact is that as far as the general public is concerned the good indigenous craftsman is more likely to be widely appreciated than the self-appointed missionary.

There are many recent but little-known

buildings in this country well designed, though with a modesty of expression which is better appreciated in reality than in photographic reproduction. Such buildings cannot always be afforded space in the technical press, and this is perfectly understandable. But their existence should be known at headquarters, with their authors' names, so that, when opportunity arises, they can be brought to the attention of those who seek guidance in selecting an architect; but also, and more important, in order that the Institute can have available the material to draw upon for its public relations work generally, and especially in proclaiming the high standard of work throughout the country well executed but unfortunately little known. None of us wants to see endlessly quoted only the achievements of the select and publicised few, and so it would be desirable for the Institute to have a deeper reservoir of good material on which to draw for public information.

That is why we have promoted a scheme for asking our members to contribute photographic and documentary examples of their work, freely chosen by themselves but with no obligations on the part of the Institute as to the use which will be made of this material. But implicit in this invitation to our membership is the belief that, by having available an up-to-date collection of this kind, we can advance the interests of architects in general. Publication of this proposal has only been delayed because of practical difficulties in staffing for, and housing, what will almost certainly become quite an important collection, available to ourselves and to selected persons who may be invited to survey, in a rapid and intimate way, the broad architectural achievement of our members.

Suggestions of this kind are only one spearhead in a multi-pronged effort to secure greater recognition for our profession, for our salaried and official as well as private members. The high standard of much 'official architecture' is of as much benefit to the cause as is good private building, and in recent years has been a powerful force in the public relations sense. Just as an instance, the just and timely recognition given generally to the Ministry of Works and its Director, and in particular to Mr. Eric Bedford, the Chief Architect, for the work at the Coronation, is a source of high satisfaction to all architects; and the same applies to any praise bestowed for such able performances as the restoration of No. 1 London and Lancaster House. We can all bask a little in the reflected glow from public recognition of such achievements.

It is on this note that I wish to end. All of us architects, salaried, official, private, belong to one architectural world. If I have dwelt at considerable length on certain problems of the private architect it is because he is the man who, at the moment, appears to have the more clouded future. Our profession must remain unified in its devotion to architecture, and all the while all our problems, all the architect's dilemmas, have to be received, studied and



solved through the machinery of this Institute. This task involves, I am sure you will agree, most exceptional demands on the human material of our secretariat. I think you will also agree that this material has so far shown not the faintest sign of either fatigue or deterioration. But while it has no moments of inertia, we must not forget that there is such a thing as a limit of elasticity.

## VOTE OF THANKS

**The Right Hon. Sir David Eccles, K.C.V.O., M.P.,** Minister of Works: It is very kind of you to invite an untrained Minister to move a vote of thanks after such a very interesting and important address. I must say I perceived, listening to your President, that the possibilities of Portland Place are really very like those of Westminster. You could have, I suppose, three kinds of President. You could have a dyed-in-the-wool traditionalist—I mean the equivalent of my old friend, Sir Waldron Smithers; I understand you have had such. You could have a modern revolutionary, the equivalent of Mr. Aneurin Bevan; I do not think you have had the pleasure of having one yet. Then you could have the best type of President, the middle of the road man; that is to say, someone who culls the best of both worlds because he believes in both the past and the future. I think you have in Howard Robertson just that kind—the best kind—of President. As far as I know his work it is true of that too: he respects tradition and he is not afraid of reform.

I think he is right in pointing out that he has come to his great office at a time of considerable difficulty for architects. I, from my desk down in Lambeth Bridge House, have sensed the restless anxiety of many architects about their status and their prospects. Of course, complacency would be worse than anxiety; it always is, I think. And that is something to the good—that we are anxious. If we were now in the first year of the reign of the first Queen Elizabeth, we should all be anxious about our heads remaining on our shoulders. And yet, of course, looking back we can now see that for all the troubles of 1560 your predecessors were just on the edge of producing some of the most spectacular and lovely architecture we know. I have a hunch that that page of history is going to repeat itself, and that we may be entering on a very remarkable period of creation in the British arts.

We are not worried about our heads, but the President did remind us about the taxation which haunts all the professions and is, indeed, a very serious menace. The wealth and the beauty of a civilisation depends on getting the best out of a tiny handful of gifted men, and so it is absolutely necessary to find ways in which to educate and reward these people so that they are stirred up and their talents are fertilised.

You can take it that all the President said about the difficulties of taxation I will report to Mr. Butler. I think I will add my own view, which is—to come straight to

the point—that I should like to move a reduction of the surtax on earned income. I have done it twice myself from the Opposition benches, and I am longing to hear a Chancellor doing it from the Government bench, provided two things exist; the first is that the economy must be expanding and the general standard of living must be rising; the other is that there must be a general sense that there is opportunity for everybody to get to the top of his particular ladder. If we have these two conditions, then I think the British public would be very ready to see some return to the kind of reward that special effort and genius ought to have.

The President—I think I understood him aright—felt that high taxation added to the attractions of salaried pensioned secure posts, and he said that more than half your members are now either in official or in salaried employment. I am led to ask whether that is a peak or whether that figure is just a stage in a continuing trend. And do we want it to be a peak or a stage? I think there are very strong forces at work behind the increase in official building. There are also very great dangers.

I want to say a word about one danger which the President touched on and which I have seen a good deal of myself; and that is the devaluation in patronage which occurs so easily and so quietly when the enthusiasm of the building owner is replaced by the anonymous caution of a committee.

Howard Robertson shed a discreet presidential tear over the unadventurous sameness, the lack of human emotion and personality, in many contemporary buildings. I agree, but I am not at all sure that one of the main reasons for that is not that official patronage and commercial and industrial patronage are now so often committee patronage. It is very hard for a committee composed of Ministers or councillors or officials or company directors—the sort of people who were trained for other jobs—to turn their attention with success to the choice of an artist. And when the architect has been chosen, how much freedom is he going to get, and what modifications will be asked of him in his design by this cautious, compromising, looking-over-the-political-shoulder committee?

I do ask you not to expect too much from the average committee member. He cannot help playing safe by the nature of his appointment and his job. And if he is a Conservative, he probably feels some responsibility for spending somebody else's money! There are the taxpayers, ratepayers, shareholders. And it really must be true that this kind of committee patronage—which, to the best of my knowledge, now places more than 80 per cent of the commissions for all new construction done in this country—can only by sheer accident possess the qualifications and the courage necessary for a hazardous exercise in taste.

I know that accidents do occur in board rooms and town halls and even in Government departments. We could probably all name a committee who have made the

right choice and have given the architect what he wanted. But I think those are exceptions to the rule, and I was very interested to hear the President say that you were going to increase the facilities for guiding people to choose the right architect. There is a great deal to be done there. We have somehow to guide these anonymous and cautious bodies to take the right man for the job and not make donkeys of themselves over his design when it is right. We have the Royal Fine Arts Commission; it has probably to be asked to do a good deal more than it is doing now—I hope it will be—but we cannot rely on any one body.

I touch on that because, having just come through the Coronation, I really know something about the risks of artistic patronage, and I shiver at the power which is given to the sitting Minister of Works to say 'yes' or 'no' to very large questions of design. And he must say 'yes' or 'no': that is what he is put there to do, and if he does not do it, then he is not doing his job.

The President has said some very nice things about the share of the Ministry of Works in the Coronation. We enjoyed ourselves enormously. I fear that we offended against one of the President's dictums. We certainly rendered a 'packaged service'. Our team of designers and engineers, very well led by my Chief Architect, Eric Bedford, and very well nursed by Sir Charles Mole, provided the advantages of a side which is accustomed to play together. We did bring in one or two outsiders, very brilliant people—that robust sculptor James Woodford and the incomparable Constance Spry—and, again, some painters from the Royal College of Art at South Kensington. They all got into the team quickly and our strength lay in the concentration in one place of all the decisions on design, execution and finance. We worked as a 'packaged service'.

We have published today a White Paper on Housing, the main purpose of which is to grasp the nettle of rents. We believe it is very dangerous to make statutory provision whereby very large numbers of families will have to pay higher rent, but I think it would be more dangerous not to do it. In this policy of Mr. Macmillan there is a definite proposal that we should swing the pendulum back and build upwards rather than outwards in housing. You will find a good deal about that where he talks of his intentions in renewing slum clearance.

What does the client really want when he starts a slum clearance scheme? I say he wants one plan from one place and at one price. I really do not think I should want to employ a whole lot of different people separately. I think I should feel I had my hand on the business, as we had it on the Coronation, if all these people—the architect, engineer, civil, mechanical or electrical, quantity surveyor, clerk of works or resident engineer—came together in a team. The international side is very often beaten by the first division club that plays all through the year. I am not sure that we have not to move in this direction of a

complete scheme, with the cost, and taking the builder in right from the beginning. Flats, I think, would be a good opportunity to try it out.

The problem that your President posed on this point is really how to secure discipline and how to impart the enthusiasm which we know by experience are necessary to a successful building team. They are, we know, the two things that are lacking in the country to some extent today—discipline and enthusiasm. We have to have both if we are going to do good work.

We are told that the teamwork in the United States has these qualities. I take it on hearsay: I have no personal experience. But supposing it is so, is it there at the expense of the creative excellence of the American architects? I honestly do not think I can say that it is. Still, I agree with your President that what suits America does not necessarily suit us, and I think it would be peculiar if it did. All I do ask you, though, is not to allow respect for an ethical charter to be the pretext for avoiding constructive thinking and bringing in some reforms. For really, if people do not get what they want in one way they will most certainly find a new way of getting it. It is my experience that it is best to be there in time and see that the new way is what you want it to be. It was quite clear from the President's address that he is well aware of this problem. I am so glad that he is, because he has reached the top of a very great profession, and at the top he has shown himself not afraid to lead.

Perhaps I might say in conclusion that if the Ministry of Works—all of us—have anything we can contribute, we will back you up in seeing that so far as is in our power his term of office, which has begun so well, yields a rich harvest to British architects and to the nation.

I have much pleasure in moving a vote of thanks to your President.

**Mr. George Arnold Coombe, M.C., President of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors:** There are perhaps three reasons why I should be very grateful for the opportunity you have given me to support the Minister in his proposal of a vote of thanks to your President. First, I suppose it is nice to support a Minister anywhere, particularly a Minister of Works in this hall. Secondly, I happen temporarily to be in charge of a great sister Institution with whose members you architects have to work in close co-operation. Thirdly, I have known your President for a good number of years, and apart from the fact that I have found him, as you have, a very genial personality, I have also found him to be thinker and artist as well as architect; and where those three qualities are found together greatness lies. I am therefore very proud to be able to say one or two things this evening.

I am not a quantity surveyor, but down through the years off and on—more off, perhaps, than on—I have had quite a lot to do with architects. I will therefore forbear to comment upon your President's remarks about design. But I do not think

for one moment that that will prevent anybody else from so doing.

I sometimes read Astragal in the ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL. I do not know whether he is any criterion of your thought, but I would say that the saying 'To follow your object is to be objective. To follow the other man's object is to be objectionable' applies to the profession of architecture more than any other. Only this week you will have noticed a short paragraph which said that two architects gave their approval to Hugh Casson's plan for Cambridge on the ground that the School of Architecture was next door to the canteen!

I should like to comment on the President's remarks as to systems, and to a certain extent to disagree with the Minister's remarks on this point when he moved his proposal. We are apt to forget, I think, that we are only just emerging from the disabilities of the war and the controls and the regulations and restrictions that have been imposed on the building industry by a benevolent Government. And we have been wriggling and adopting all sorts of subterfuges in trying to get round these controls and restrictions and difficulties that we have had to put up with.

Those of us who have had experience overseas will know that the picture is not quite so rosy, however, as we see it illustrated in foreign progressive architectural magazines. The British system we have grown up with; and we all know the architect, the surveyor, the contractor, the sub-contractor, the foreman, the craftsman, the artisan, the labourer, are not perfect by any manner of means. But they are nothing like so bad as they are painted. Our professional institutions can pick out everything that is good from overseas and tell us all about it. Our trade bodies can do the same, and they do. If things are only allowed to go back to normal and we are left alone, the building industry can do just as good a job just as quickly and well as any 'packaged' system imported from overseas.

I have sometimes wondered how architects grade their various types of work. I suppose it is fair to say that you call housing your bread and butter and that commercial work is the jam that you put on it, while monumental work is the cream. Well, few of us can look for cream, but all of us, I think, can look for a little jam, if not today then tomorrow. In launching building projects, not only in this country but in all parts of the world, I have discovered how fond architects are of jam. I flew out to Australia in the early part of this year because a job which should have cost £200,000 was supposed to cost £350,000. Actually, we signed a contract at £225,000. Your President was quite right when he said people like a tune. May I leave the matter there with a plea for a kind thought for the man who pays for it?

The Minister has referred to a White Paper which was published at 4.30 this afternoon. I have a copy of it, and there is one paragraph, No. 89, on which I want to

conclude. It says this: 'House building and repairs are not the only kinds of building which are required in the national interest. There are the factories and all forms of construction and civil engineering which improve our capacity to earn a higher national income—building for defence, building for the National Health Service and for education. The total amount of building that can be done will depend on the success which the building industry achieves in building faster, better and cheaper.' That, ladies and gentlemen, is your job, not mine.

I have very much pleasure in seconding the Minister's proposal that a vote of thanks be given to the President of the Royal Institute of British Architects for his Presidential Address.

**The President:** I am not going to say anything more except that whenever I hear the proposer and seconder of a vote of thanks I am always very comfortable for about an hour after the affair is over. Then I wake up with an uneasy feeling! I do thank the proposer and seconder from my heart for coming tonight and you, ladies and gentlemen, for listening to me so patiently.

#### PRESENTATION OF THE LONDON ARCHITECTURE BRONZE MEDAL

**The President:** I now have a very pleasant duty, much more agreeable than the first one I had tonight—to present the R.I.B.A. London Architecture Bronze Medal and Diploma for 1952 to Messrs. Farquharson and McMorran, both Fellows of this Institute, for the L.C.C. Open Air School at Bow Road, E.3, now known as the Phoenix School.

If any architect in this hall has not been to see it I can cordially recommend a visit. I am going to have the pleasure of asking them to come to the platform to receive the medal and diploma. We have seen them before; they had another medal on a previous occasion, in 1946, for the police station at Blackheath.

A replica goes to the building owner; in this case it is an L.C.C. building. Who could receive the replica more worthily than Mr. McKinnon Wood, Chairman of the Education Committee?

*The Medal and Diploma were presented to Mr. Farquharson and Mr. McMorran and the replica of the Medal was presented to Mr. McKinnon Wood.*

**Mr. Horace Farquharson [F]:** With your permission, I will ask my partner, Donald McMorran, to thank the Institute, because he is really the designer and planner of the building. But there is just one thing I should like to say first. It relates to a domestic matter. On the very morning on which we were officially informed by the Institute that they were going to present us with the second Bronze Medal, Mrs. McMorran presented her husband with a second son!

**Mr. Donald H. McMorran [F]:** This very modest job, I should like to think, received

this award because it does, perhaps, exemplify the kind of co-operation which you and Sir David Eccles have emphasised as being so important in all building operations.

The first job of the architect, I suppose, on getting a commission is to begin a kind of softening-up process on the client. In this case we were saved that trouble because the Education Committee of the London County Council had already been well trained by their own architect, and we found them extremely receptive to the idea that the architect would do all that was required of him.

Next to come on the scene in this case was the quantity surveyor, Mr. Harry Venning. He came in very early and he kept a benevolent eye on our antics with the approximate estimates. It was only a month or two ago that he was able to come into the office and with somewhat of the bearing of a proud father tell us that the job had come out within £10 of the contract figure.

Then we were fortunate with our contractors. You told the meeting, Sir, how important it is that the contractors should keep the spirit of the master builders, and that term certainly does apply to the firm of Rowley Brothers, who carried out this work. They appreciated the need for craftsmanship. They made the joinery themselves in their own workshops, and their craftsmanship was none the worse for their showing business ability. The clerk of works I am delighted to see here tonight. He was a complete stranger to us but he soon became a kind of father confessor, and a great deal of the happy spirit on the ground was due to him. The fact is that this was a 'packaged' job. It was the result of a team brought together in the ordinary course of building operations.

Finally, perhaps, I might mention our own staff. I see them here tonight. I am sure they will understand if I mention Mr. Peter Phillips of the Brixton School of Building, who did all the drawings—I used to tell him too many of them—a few of which are in the lobby.

The job itself had the advantage of being a prototype of this particular kind of school. I do not think any other permanent special schools have been built in London or even in the country since the war. The Education Committee were very sympathetic to the idea that we should depart from the normal plan of such schools which, as you know, consists of single-storey chalets spread about the site. They were willing to allow us to experiment with two-storey classrooms, which allowed us to make the best use of that particular site. For the fact that the buildings are of glass I hardly need to apologise to modern architects, but my own misgivings on the subject did not apply in this case, because the requirements were for the maximum of light and air for delicate children.

A curious point about the site was that it had the disadvantage as a school site of being approached from the south, and one would normally like to approach from the north. But this has the result that, as you

enter the site, you are looking into the open classrooms instead of their backs, as you would normally have done. It is an accident which has a bearing on the character of the scheme.

My friend Rowland Pierce is here, and I should like to tell him that this plan is based on a module. I know he is concerned with that, and a number of different modules have been put forward from time to time. I should like to advance the merits of the number seven, which has always been a favourite in our office. It is a 7 in. by 7 in. = 49 in. scheme, which allows you to put two 2-ft. paving slabs together with two  $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. joints and on that figure you work out the typical classroom.

It is a very great privilege to receive the appreciation of one's fellow craftsmen, and I do thank you most sincerely on behalf of us both.

**Mr. R. McKinnon Wood, O.B.E., Chairman of the L.C.C. Education Committee:** It is a very pleasant and praiseworthy custom of the Royal Institute to present a replica of an award to the client. The client, as Mr. McMorran has indicated, is an important partner, for however little he may be able to do to help the architect to deserve an award of this kind, architects would, I think, admit that the client can do a great deal to make it difficult or impossible. Therefore, I feel that we accept this with a certain sense of merit.

I am very glad that our Education Officer, Dr. John Brown, is here because he and his department are a very important part of the client, concerned with the detailed discussions with the architect.

As the Chairman of the biggest Education Authority in this country I should like to take this opportunity of expressing my great appreciation of what I think is a remarkable achievement of the profession in school building. When just after the war we were preparing, as required by the Education Act, our plans for the development of education in London, we looked round and saw that to bring up our schools to anything like the modern conception of education we should have to rebuild practically all the schools in London. And we noted what it was going to cost, according to the regulations of the Minister of Education of that time. I must say I was appalled and I could not help feeling that it was not really a realistic plan that we had drawn up under the terms of these regulations. I wondered how long it would be after the former Minister of Works became Minister of Education before some action would emanate from the Ministry. Action did emanate with very great effect; and the result of it was that the cost in terms of the real value of the money for our schools from 1948 to the present day was divided by two. That was done at a certain sacrifice, which we who are interested in education greatly regret, of the amenities of the schools. But it was done to a much greater extent by the skill and ingenuity of the architects. I should like to take this opportunity of expressing

on behalf of educationists our appreciation of what architects have achieved in that direction.

I am very glad that in London we do not have to have all our schools produced by a county architect—and indeed so far as our schools are produced by a county architect he is an enlightened county architect who has his department so organised that it contains within itself what are virtually a number of little architects' offices, all enjoying a large measure of independent initiative. But I am glad that apart from that we have, as to about half our school building programme, recourse to private architects. So we get what is so desirable, an immense amount of variety in the school building in London. You cannot when you cross the border of the County of London say of the first school you meet, as one has been able to do in some counties, 'We know now we are in London because this is a London style of school.' We have had an immense variety.

The other thing that pleases me very much is the way in which the architecture of our schools is reflecting the modern idea which educationists express in that phrase 'the children's centre'. Schools are much more being conceived by architects trying to look at them through the eyes of children. I think we are getting some delightful places, so gay inside. I am not always sure whether more could not be done to make a better building from the point of view of the citizen who looks at it from outside, but at any rate we are getting them right inside. We are putting first things first. For the primary purpose of the school is to be a place for the children to work in.

Here we have a scheme at which the criticism that the external appearance is in any way inferior to the internal appearance of the scheme could not be levelled. I can make no claim to be a critic of art or architecture. But I may say, speaking of my own impression, that this is a scheme that pleases me immensely by its dignified beauty; and I personally would not dream of quarrelling—and I would not dare to put it higher than that—with the decision of the judges who awarded the Bronze Medal to the firm of Farquharson and McMorran.

**Mr. F. C. Rowley:** I can only say how happy a job it has been, working with Farquharson and McMorran. It is very gratifying to hear the remarks just passed about my company. But it would make it sound very one-sided, and I should like to say now how right through the job their office and staff have helped; particularly by not issuing a lot of variation orders, which cause so many headaches and delays.

The school was placed in a very drab area, but I believe it will be an inspiration for further development, and should it be so I hope my company will participate.

Mr. McMorran made no mention of my speechmaking, and I am glad he did not give me a standard to live up to, because frankly I am at an end. Yes, I am at an end.



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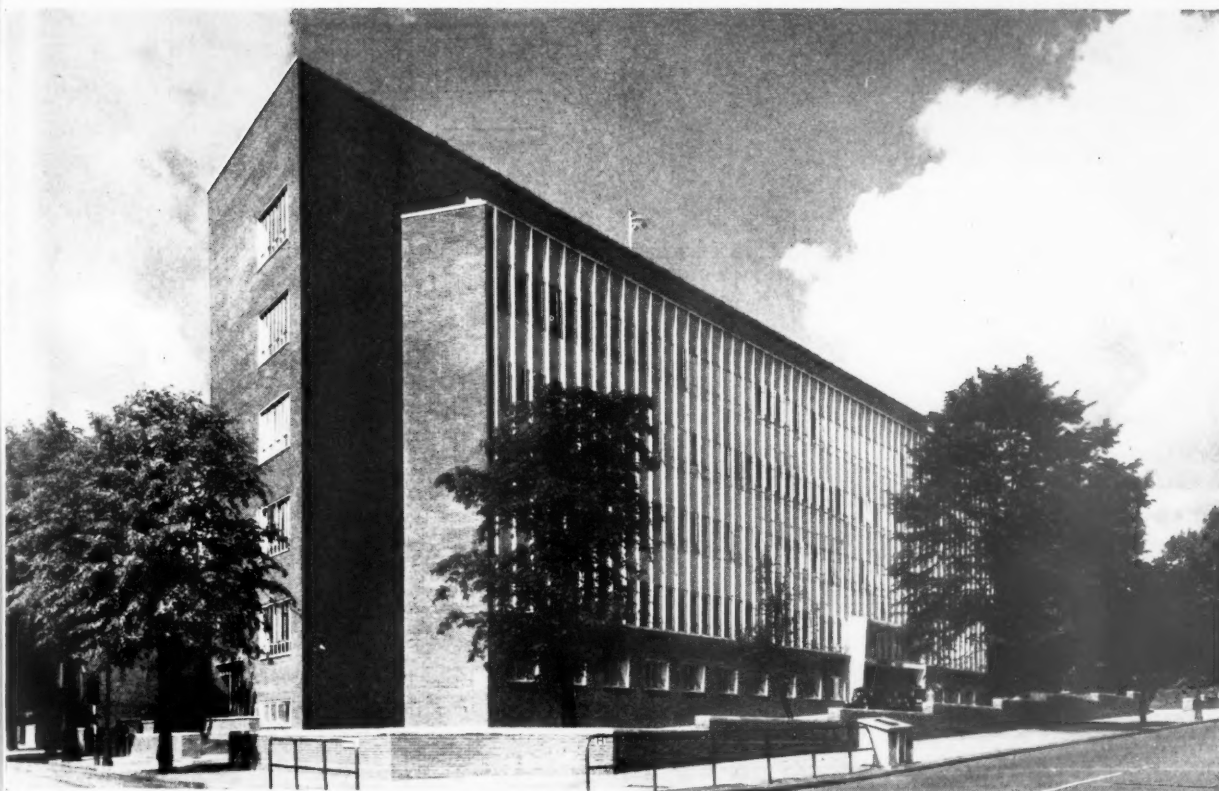
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JOURNAL



View of the main front, facing Shoot-up Hill, Kilburn. Ministry of Works photograph, Crown copyright reserved

## Office for the Telephone Manager

North-West Area, Kilburn, London

Architect: Eric Bedford, C.V.O. [A]

Chief Architect, Ministry of Works

THIS BUILDING has been designed to provide accommodation for the Post Office telephone manager and his staff, controlling the north-west area of London. It is situated on a site fronting Shoot-up Hill, Kilburn, London, and comprises a basement for boiler house and storage; a sub-ground floor containing kitchen, dining-room and telephone switchroom, with five floors of office accommodation above; the total floor area being 78,000 sq. ft. The main front is 219 ft. 6 in. long by 49 ft. 7 in. wide, with a staircase, lifts and lavatory block centrally disposed at right angles to the main building; this block extends for some 47 ft. 6 in. and is 51 ft. 9 in. at its widest part. At the inception of the project the possibility of need for extension was borne in mind, and this extension will carry on from the lavatory block, the final building being T-shaped, with through vehicular access at ground level.

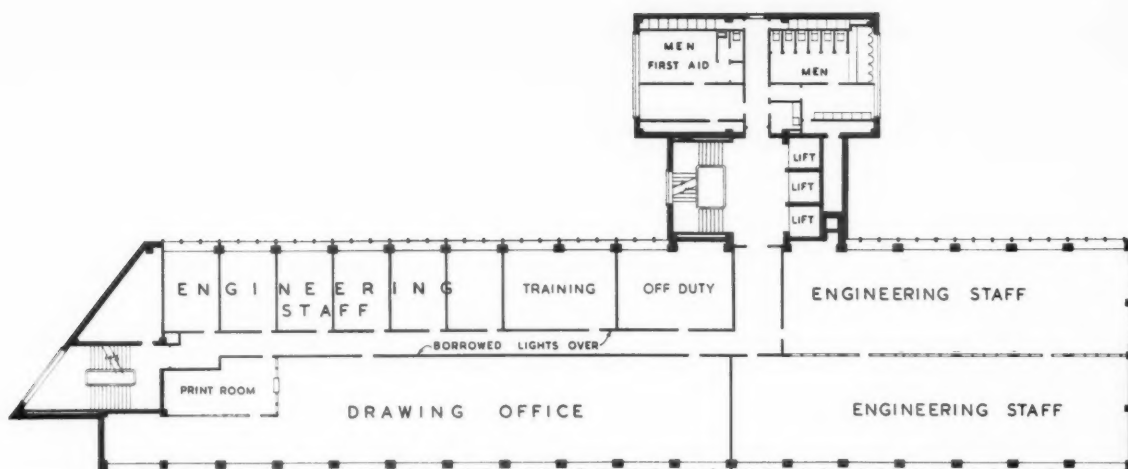
The particular requirements of the telephone department, and the possibility of extension, called for the maximum flexi-

bility in the internal planning, and therefore the building has been designed with beams spanning from the front columns to the back without intermediate support; the columns are set back 1 ft. 5 in. from the front and back of the main building, the transverse distance between them is 43 ft. 9 in. and they are spaced at 12 ft. centres longitudinally, their construction being in normal reinforced concrete.

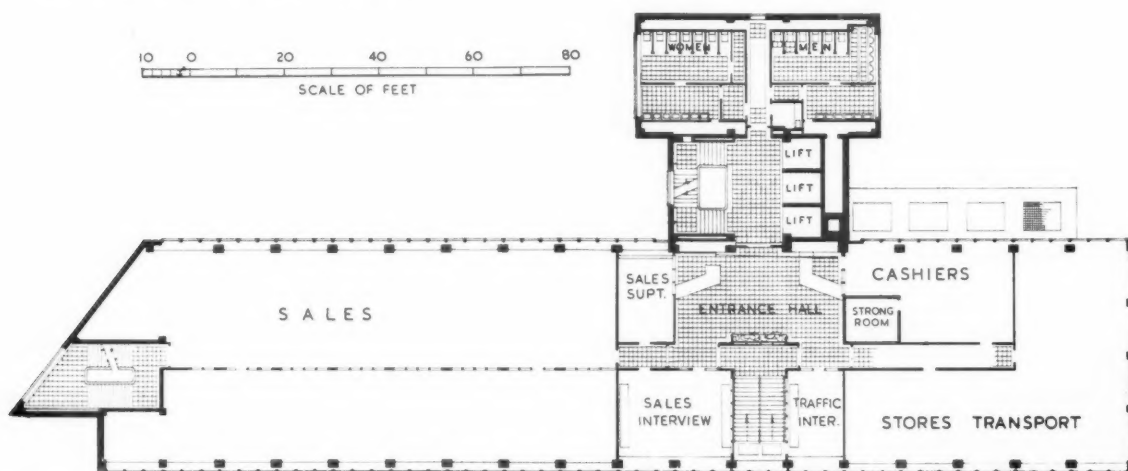
For reasons of economy in the use of steel it was decided that the main beams, spanning 43 ft. 9 in. between the columns, should be prestressed, and this is the first multi-storey building in this country to be constructed with a continuous frame and prestressed concrete beams. The beams were cast *in situ* and were cored for the Magnel-Blaton system of post-tensioning; the cables passing through the columns to the anchorages on the external faces of the columns. Full continuity between the beams and the columns was provided for, and the cables were so positioned that no rotation of the beams relative to the

columns occurred during stressing; this was achieved by using a modified version of a method developed by the French engineer Monsieur Y. Guyon. The cables have been calculated to keep the stresses in the concrete between the limits of 2,500 lb. per sq. in. in compression and 200 lb. per sq. in. in tension at stressing. The sizes of the cables vary at each floor level according to the moment distribution throughout the frame; thus at the top floor, where there is a 12-ft. set-back, the beams are 2 ft. 7½ in. deep and 1 ft. 6 in. wide and have single cables of 36 wires 0.276 in. in diameter. All the beams on the other floors are 2 ft. 5½ in. deep and 1 ft. 3 in. wide, but the cables differ at each floor level. At the fourth-floor level the beams have two cables each of 40 wires; at the third-floor level one cable of 64 wires, and at the second and first-floor levels they have one cable of 56 wires each.

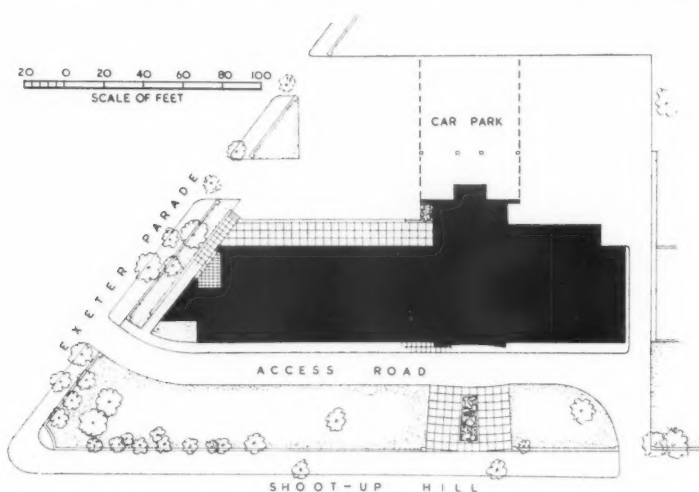
The floors were constructed with hollow clay units resting on inverted T-section secondary beams at 16-in. centres, precast



Plan of the second floor, typical of the upper floors



Plan of the ground floor. The columns are recessed and the main beams span from column to column without intermediate support



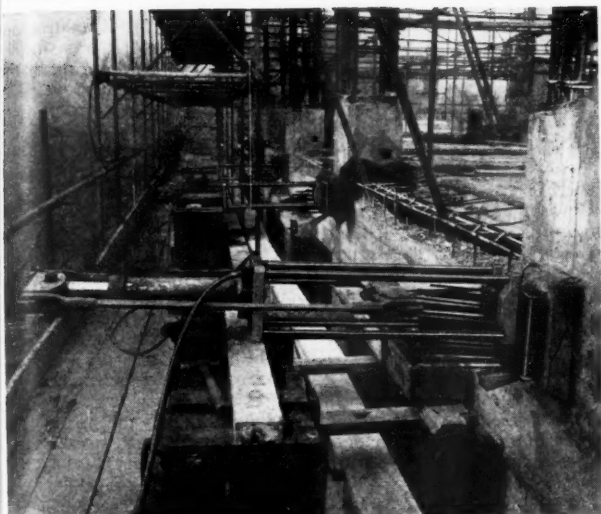
The site lay-out showing treatment of the approach

and pretensioned on the long line system. Mild steel bars were placed in the *in situ* topping to ensure continuity in the floor system.

To economise in the concrete section of the main beams it was decided to put as much constructional weight as possible on each beam at the time of stressing, and therefore the secondary beams were laid in position and the floors were concreted for most of their area, but a strip about 1 ft. wide was left unconcreted on each side of the beams; this procedure ensured that only the beams were being stressed. After the beams had been stressed the concrete flooring was completed.

The steel wire used had an ultimate strength of 95–100 tons per sq. in.; the jack stress was 135,000 lb. per sq. in. on the steel, with an assumed final stress of 110,000 lb. per sq. in.

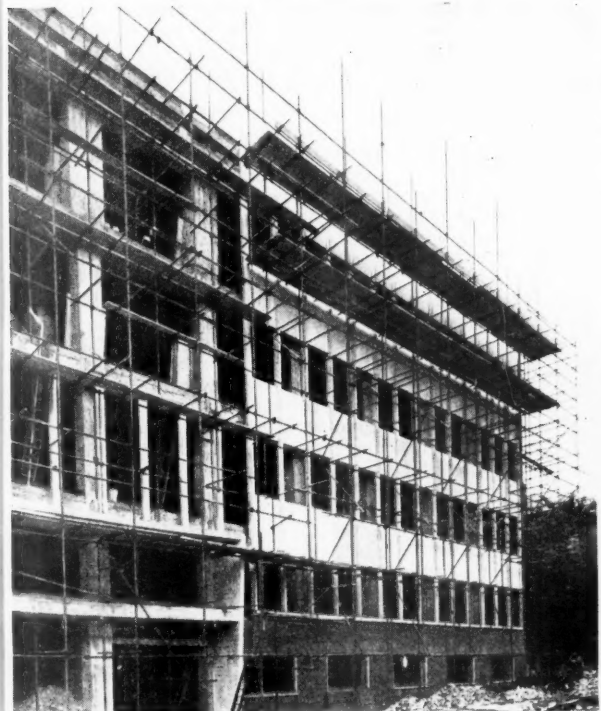
The concrete mix originally used was 1 : 1½ : 3, with a water/cement ratio of 0.4, but during construction investigations were carried out to see if economy in the use of



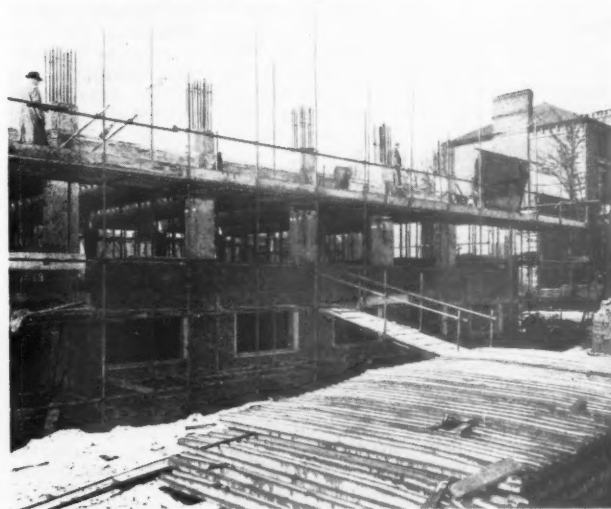
Stressing the main beams with three jacks simultaneously



A main beam and secondary beams, showing portions of floor left unconcreted until after stressing



The mullions are precast and are clipped to the main frame



First floor main beams propped prior to stressing. Precast pretensioned floor joists in foreground

cement could be made without detriment to the strength of the concrete, and the mix was finally changed to a nominal 1 : 2 : 4, which produced a cube strength of 5,900 lb. per sq. in. at 14 days.

The external cladding is partly in hand-made facing bricks and partly in precast concrete mullions clipped to the main frame and carrying alternate horizontal bands of precast concrete panels and glazing, metal windows being used throughout the building.

Internally the beams have been left fair faced, the walls and ceilings are plastered. Ducts with hardwood covers have been formed in the floors to take the telephone services, and the floor finishes are wood block in the dining-room and telephone switchroom, terrazzo in the lift and entrance halls, and lino in the rest of the building.

The building is heated by radiators served by a low-pressure hot-water circulation system. The domestic and heating

boilers are fitted with automatic underfeed stokers fed from an overhead fuel bunker.

Mr. G. C. A. Greetham, M.Inst.Struct.E., Chief Structural Engineer, was responsible for the design of the prestressed concrete structure. Mr. R. A. Lorton, Chief Engineer's Division, was responsible for the heating and ventilating services. The Post Office Engineering Department was responsible for the lift, lighting, power, and telephone service. Mr. Cooke was the Clerk of Works.



# Ancient Corinth

By R. E. Wycherley, M.A.

Professor of Greek at the University College of North Wales

THE CITY OF CORINTH was as magnificently situated as any in Greece, a land of noble sites. Twice it grew to be one of the most prosperous cities of the ancient world. In between, from its destruction by the Roman general Mummius in 146 B.C. to its refounding by Julius Caesar, it lay for a century in complete ruin.

This chequered history is reflected in the monuments. The great American excavations have been going on for over half a century, and the whole of the vital central area has been exposed, besides a number of interesting outlying sites. With the publication of successive volumes of *Corinth* a detailed picture of the monuments is being given. Of special importance, if one is interested in town-planning, is R. L. Scranton's recent volume on *The Lower Agora*,<sup>1</sup> with which the publication of the agora and its surroundings nears completion. Corinth is shown to be a very notable example of Greek and Graeco-Roman city-building; the Greek cities were highly individual in character, and Corinth was different from any other. With the material now available it is possible to summarise its points of interest for the town-planner, and to do it greater justice than was possible before.

The city owed its importance to its vital commercial and strategic position at the head of the Corinthian gulf south-west of the Isthmus. The narrow coastal plain rises gradually southwards from the gulf in broad shallow terraces; and the city lies a couple of miles inland on two of these terraces at the northern foot of the Acrocorinthus, the massive rock over 1,880 ft. high which forms a powerful and impressive citadel. The walls of the city, with a circuit of about six miles, took in a vast area, not all thickly inhabited, and long walls descended northward to a harbour town on the gulf; another port lay to the east on the other sea.

The agora is of greatest importance, not only because it is the main excavation area, but because the way in which the agora developed is probably always the element in Greek city-building which has the greatest interest and relevance for the modern planner.<sup>2</sup> Excavation in the rest of the vast area has inevitably been sporadic, but one might first draw attention to

several interesting peripheral spots. On the northern edge of the town was the sanctuary of Asclepius the healing god, with which was associated the fountain-house of Lerna; both provide good examples of the development of architectural types from simple to more sophisticated forms. Near by was the gymnasium; we know this from Pausanias (II.4.5.), but the building has not been explored, though a few column bases possibly mark the site.<sup>3</sup>

Many other interesting monuments must have stood in this northern quarter. Dinsmoor postulates 'the largest temple in the Peloponnesus', on the strength of several very meagre fragments.<sup>4</sup> The city wall runs immediately to the north of the shrine of Asclepius. Its course has been traced, and though remains are slight and one must go elsewhere to lesser towns to see those towering structures which are among the most impressive relics of Greek architecture, it provides interesting specimens of Greek fortification, with sections which have a sun-dried brick core between stone faces. Stretches of fine Greek masonry are to be seen too at the base of the mediaeval walls which festoon the Acrocorinthus. At the highest point of the citadel are slight remains of the temple of Aphrodite whose worship at Corinth was so famous, with the fountain-house of Upper Peirene a little below, notable for its cement barrel-vaulted chamber which may be Hellenistic.

This spring was thought by some—wrongly—to supply water to the lower Peirene in the agora below. The lower Peirene was the centre of Corinth, and the depression in which it lay, west of the temple hill, was the nucleus from which the agora expanded. The spring provided a copious supply of water—it still serves the modern village. Water supply was a vital problem in the Greek cities; Corinth was comparatively well-off in this respect.

Peirene was situated towards the southern end of a hollow which ran along the east side of the low hill from which the great archaic temple of Apollo dominated central Corinth, as the seven monolithic columns still standing dominate the place today. From the site of the spring the agora spread south-westwards, along the line of another shallow depression. To the south of this the ground rose gently. These contours determined the growth of the agora; in the end the natural features were partly emphasised by the architectural transformation wrought in Roman Corinth, partly obliterated—the south-westerly depression was filled and the sacred spring which stood in it disappeared.

<sup>2</sup> Scranton (*Corinth*, I, iii, p. 179) sees another gymnasium in certain remains just north of the temple hill, nearer the heart of the city, consisting of a long stoa and a bathing establishment, built over by a market in the Roman city.

<sup>4</sup> *Hesperia*, Supplement VIII, pp. 104–115.

Our knowledge of the pre-Roman agora is limited and fragmentary. It was simple in architectural form and more open; the natural contours as indicated above were little changed; paving was never more than cobbled. Roads led out in various directions. There were several smaller temples in and around the area (A.B). The apsidal temple B was associated with the mysterious 'sacred spring' in its underground chamber, and seems to have been the scene of an oracular cult. To the north-west of the agora was another famous spring, Glauke, named after the unhappy princess who was said to have flung herself into the water to relieve the agony of the poisoned robe given her by Medea. reservoirs and basins were hewn out of a cubical mass of the living rock. A little further from the agora to the north-west, outside the region of the plan, was the great theatre of Corinth.

The erection of buildings on three sides of the temple hill, a row of shops on the east and stoas on the north and south (north stoa and north-west stoa in the plan), tended to isolate the temple of Apollo and define its temenos more clearly. The northern edge of the great agora square was defined in the later pre-Roman phase by the north-west stoa, below the great temple. On the south side, where the agora was constantly expanding, it was delimited first by a stoa on the line of the eastern part of the later 'central shops', and finally by the huge south stoa, one of the biggest buildings of its kind in Greece, with a terrace in front and shops behind. The latter were mostly wine-shops or taverns, to judge by the wells in them—supplied from Peirene and used no doubt for cooling the wine—and from the objects found in the wells. With the building of these stoas the agora received a more definite shape, and a more monumental form, but was still far from being fully enclosed, or knit into an architectural unity as in the Ionian cities, in which regular chess-board planning was employed.

The extraordinary many-sidedness of the Greek agora is illustrated by a peculiar find in the eastern part, a starting-line for races held no doubt in connection with a local religious festival of great venerability. Very little is known of the official administrative buildings of Corinth in this period: the agora of Athens offers better material in this respect. Notable contrasts may be found at Corinth and Athens in both the history and form of the agora; and the contrast is nowhere greater than in the succeeding Hellenistic period. In the second century B.C. Athens received lavish patronage from a series of Hellenistic kings. Huge new stoas were built on the east and south of the agora, much bigger in scale than the modest earlier public buildings on the west. Continued excavations in the last two or three years have added still further to our knowledge of this monumental growth. It now appears that the huge middle stoa and the slighter south stoa, joined by a portico at their eastern ends, made of the southern part of the agora a distinct enclosure, interpreted as a

<sup>1</sup> *Corinth*, Vol. I, Part iii, *Monuments in the Lower Agora*, by Robert Scranton, published by the American School of Classical Studies at Athens, Princeton, New Jersey, 1951. Other volumes of interest and importance for our subject are I. i, *Introduction, Topography and Architecture*, by H. N. Fowler and Richard Stillwell, 1932; I. ii, *Architecture*, by Richard Stillwell, R. L. Scranton and S. E. Freeman, 1941; II, *The Theatre*, by Richard Stillwell, 1952; III, ii, *The Defences of Acrocorinth and the Lower Town*, by Rhys Carpenter and A. Bon, 1936; X, *The Odeum*, by Oscar Broneer, 1932; XIV, *The Asklepieion and Lerna*, by Carl Roebuck, 1951.

I should like to thank the American School of Classical Studies at Athens for permission to use material and for facilities generously given during a recent visit to the site.

<sup>2</sup> I gave a very sketchy account in *How the Greeks Built Cities*, Macmillan, 1949 (see index).



<sup>5</sup> *Hesperia*, XXII, 1953, p. 35 ff.

<sup>6</sup> See JOURNAL of R.I.B.A., Oct. 1938, p. 1005 ff.

The fountain of Peirene was repeatedly rebuilt. Its basins and cisterns driven into the native rock were doubly masked, by an increasingly ornamental façade and a

handsome and elaborate forecourt. Glaue on the other hand retained much more of its character as a rock-cut fountain-house. Baths of Roman type were built north of Peirene, beyond the rectangular colonnaded court sacred to Apollo. The latrines marked on the plan belong to a very late phase. Throughout most of classical antiquity such installations were hardly thought necessary in most places.

Three basilicas were built around the agora, to the north, on the site of the old market building, on the east and on the south. They would be used as court-rooms. To the north-west of the agora, the old theatre was rebuilt—equipped now, sad to say, with arrangements for gladiatorial and wild-beast shows and aquatic displays; spectacles alien to the spirit of the original Greek theatre. The Odeum, a smaller theatre of Roman type, for concerts and recitals, was placed a little to the south; a colonnaded court occupied the space between the two and made of them a single theatre-complex.

It is beyond our present scope to deal with individual buildings in any detail; we are concerned rather with the general principles on which the new agora was planned. It was still at the centre of the road system, which was resurrected and not replanned, but it was not so open and accessible. The organisation of levels meant the use of steps in places instead of more or less natural slopes. The Lechaion road leading north to the harbour town was rebuilt in a manner characteristic of the age. Propylaea in the form of a Roman triumphal arch, several times remodelled, led into a straight and handsome colonnaded street. Such arches and colonnaded streets, and in general such deliberately contrived vistas, were unknown to the earlier Greek cities. A series of steps as the road approaches the gateway show that in this section it was not accessible to wheeled traffic.

In the organisation of the agora square itself, the contrast with Athens will again be illuminating. In the age of Augustus the agora of Athens underwent another radical transformation. Hitherto, in spite of the size and magnificence of the Hellenistic additions, it had remained essentially an open square, with only lesser monuments in the central area. In this way it was true to the original character of the Greek agora. But now, in the middle of the southern part of the square, with its back to the long south stoa, was built the Odeum, a large and elaborate concert-hall. The effect would be something like that of a Roman imperial forum. The stoas would seem to be the setting of the great new building, not merely the borders of an open space. The scheme was complicated by the removal of the temple of Ares from an unknown site elsewhere in the city to a position in the agora, occupying yet more of the main square.

Nothing of the kind happened at Corinth. The 'central shops' cut off a comparatively narrow section on the south, as the middle stoa did at Athens, though the relation of the two parts is quite

different at Corinth. But no temples or other dominating buildings intruded on the square. A number of small temples were built on a terrace looking down on the agora from the west. They accumulated over a period and did not form a very homogeneous scheme. Temples J and H were comparatively late and stood on a site where Pausanias had seen a fountain sacred to Poseidon. The 'Babbius monument' was a handsome columnar structure in which stood a statue, perhaps of Aphrodite. Temple K was tucked away behind it. Temple D (of Hermes, god of the market) stood somewhat apart in its own little corner of the agora. One could leave the agora by a ramp between temples G and H and reach the street and the west shops. On higher ground to the west stood the imposing peripteral temple E. Yet another temple (C) stood in its own colonnaded courtyard adjoining and closely associated with the fountain of Glaue. The building was placed obliquely and the colonnade was slightly irregular in shape. There is much variety and informality in the planning of the shrines. The numerous problems involved in identifying and dating particular buildings hardly need worry us at present, since we are more interested in the general cumulative effect.

Scranton very rightly emphasises the part played by the central shops, which now definitely divided the square into an upper agora on the south and a lower agora on the north, with a difference in level of some thirteen feet. There were now two distinct terraces instead of a gentle slope. The ingenious and effective use of terracing goes back to the beginnings of Greek architecture. It was a necessity imposed by the irregular nature of the sites on which cities and shrines were built. It was employed in a most spectacular manner in Hellenistic times by the architects of Pergamon. In this and the Roman age there was a greater tendency than before to organise an area, even where because of gentler contours it was not absolutely necessary to do so, into platforms of different levels.

The lower northern agora was now the main square. It was fully paved, ultimately in marble. The eastern end, opposite the row of temples, was formed by one of the basilicas. The organisation of the northern side presented problems. In the western part was the colonnade of the north-west shops, in the eastern a colonnade placed behind Peirene and joining the Propylaea awkwardly. This left an odd gap in the middle, which was filled, somewhat arbitrarily and inorganically, by a huge columnar façade of theatrical design, adorned with colossal figures of barbarian captives, which at least performed the function of making a small forecourt for the Basilica to the north. The survival of ancient monuments, such as the north-west stoa and Peirene, made a unified scheme difficult on this side. On the other hand, on the south side the resurgence of the long south stoa provided unity.

Right across the middle of the agora from east to west were built first a terrace

wall, then certain individual monuments at particular points, and finally a continuous line of buildings broken only by stairways. The result shows a rough symmetry but this is only very approximate. In the middle, but not in the exact centre, is the bema, a handsome tribunal on which the Roman governor and other important persons would appear, flanked by exedrae with marble benches. One may compare a bema in the Athenian agora in front of the stoa of Attalus on the east. There can be little doubt that the bema at Corinth and the agora in front of it were the scene of Acts, XVIII. 12-17, when the appearance of Paul before the governor caused a riot. At the east end of the row is an unidentified circular monument, at the west a curious apsidal building which may be a shrine of Dionysus. The shops in the western set are bigger than in the eastern, but the eastern set is distinguished by having in the middle a larger and more handsome room with a columnar façade, which must have been a shrine of some sort. Again we get a characteristically Greek informality and variety rather than a rigid symmetry.

The structures on the central terrace demarcated the upper and lower agoras but also provided a link between the two, being themselves associated with both. The bema was entered from the upper level but looked out over the lower, where the populace would gather. Similarly the roof of the shops probably formed a terrace overlooking the lower agora. There were several stairways. The height of the central shops was not great. Seen from the north they would seem to form a kind of base from which would rise the columns of the south stoa. It is interesting to note that in late antiquity they were pulled down and a great stairway built, reuniting the upper and lower agoras more closely.

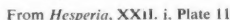
The south stoa remained a dominant feature of the Roman agora. The columnar façade remained more or less the same, but the rooms behind were much reorganised, and adjoining them towards the eastern end the third basilica was placed. Most of the shops behind the stoa were now displaced, especially in the eastern part, by various chambers and halls of different sizes and shapes, which must have served as offices for magistrates and meeting places for official boards. The horseshoe-shaped room near the middle, west of a point where a passage continuing the road from the harbour Cenchreae penetrates the stoa, has been interpreted as a council chamber. But a number of the rooms maintained their original Greek form—especially a block at the western end—and, as far as one can tell, their original function; that is, they were shops, mainly wine-shops.

Scranton remarks (p. 152) that the upper agora was 'predominantly official and administrative, the lower predominantly devoted to the various needs of the people at large'. The Corinth *Guide*<sup>7</sup> says that the south half of the agora 'apparently served as a Forum Civile or administrative

<sup>7</sup> Ancient Corinth, a Guide to the Excavations, 5th edn., 1951.



## 11 CENT A.D.



<sup>8</sup> R. Martin, *Recherches sur l'Agora Grecque, Etudes d'Histoire et d'Architecture Urbaines*, Paris, 1951.

15



The west (entrance) elevation

# Western House Infant and Nursery School Cippenham, Slough

Architect: F. A. C. Maunder, Dip.Arch. (Dunelm), A.M.T.P.I. [F]

Assistant Architects: R. A. Horsman, A.M.T.P.I. [A], C. M. Harding

THIS SCHOOL was the subject of the recent award to Mr. Maunder of the R.I.B.A. Bronze Architecture Medal in the area of the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Architectural Association for the six years ending 31 December 1951. The medal was presented by Mr. E. D. Jefferiss Mathews, O.B.E., Vice-President R.I.B.A., at a pleasant little ceremony held in the school on 17 October; Mr. David Booth [F], President of the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Architectural Association was in the chair. A replica of the medal was presented to the Chairman of the Education Committee of the Buckinghamshire County Council.

Being one of a number of schools built by the Buckinghamshire County Council in the 1945-49 programme, this school suffered severely from the then prevailing shortage of materials. Nevertheless the final net cost per place was £150 and the building today shows no sign of its creation in a time of austerity. Finished three years ago, it has mellowed a little, but visitors at the medal presentation ceremony remarked on its bright, clean appearance, a tribute both to the care of the building taken by the head mistress, Mrs. Ruth Porter, her staff and the children, and to the quality of the design, materials and workmanship. The school accommodates 240 infants and 40 nursery children. The contract price was £52,052.

The attractive 4-acre site was an old orchard, in which as many trees as possible were retained, and which provided ample room for a spreading plan in which the two blocks of classrooms face south-east. The nursery school is in the wing nearest the entrance gate and is self-contained with its own small play garden and pram store. A 'penguin' signpost indicates the entrance to the nursery school. The hall has windows on the south and north and a service counter for school meals. It projects to the west and helps to form a forecourt at the main entrance and to protect the paved playground from northerly winds.

In the design and layout of the school a special aim was to create intimacy of character and scale in keeping with the outlook of small children. The plan is therefore simple and direct. Access to the paved open-air teaching spaces is from lobbies between pairs of classrooms. The children's lavatory accommodation is grouped for easy access from both the school interior and the play spaces. The classrooms are well shielded from noise and passing distractions; none of them



Sectional elevation showing the hall and a classroom wing



The hall and main entrance of the school seen from the access road on the south-west. The 'penguin' signpost directs to the entrance of the nursery wing

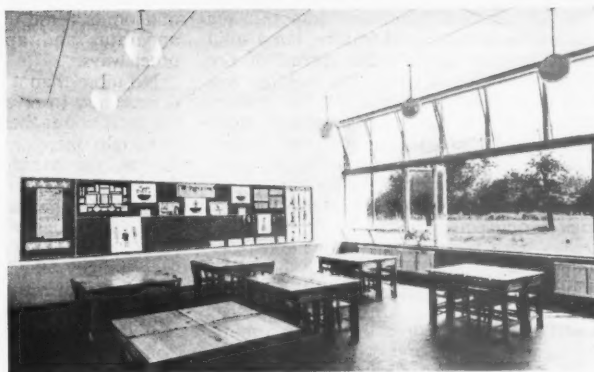
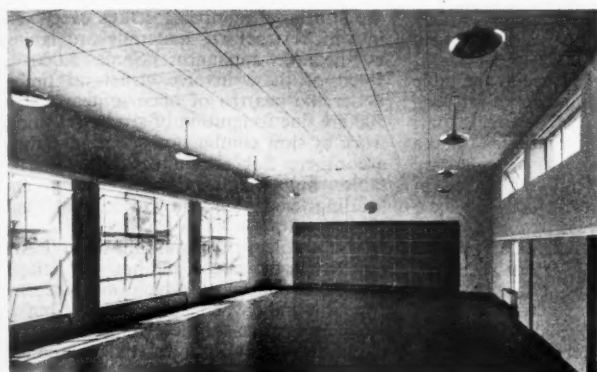
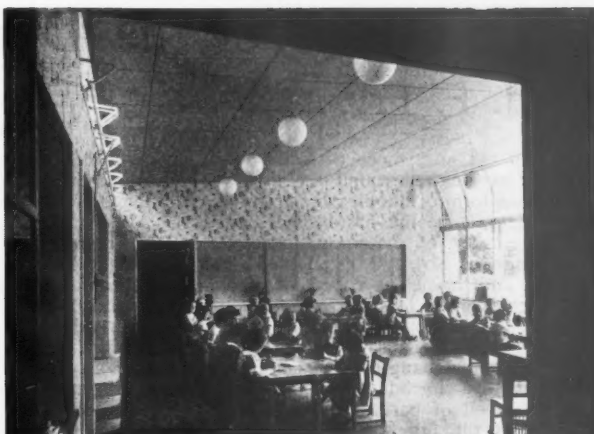
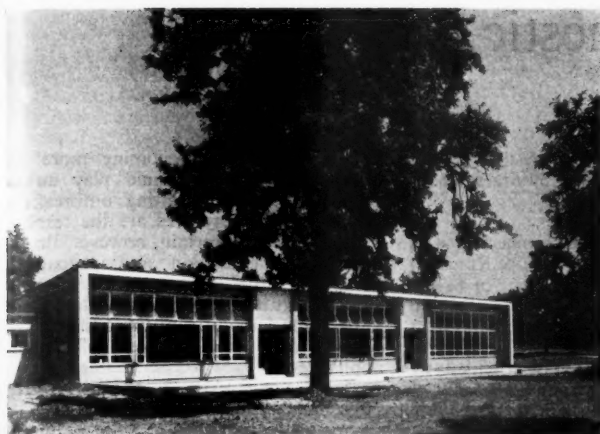


General view from the south-east showing the two classroom blocks and some of the old orchard trees which were preserved as much as possible

overlooks the approaches and the service yard is behind the kitchen and hall wing.

Construction is of load-bearing brick walls, faced with Uxbridge flint bricks and

'Tyrolean' rendering. At the time of building, timber was exceptionally scarce and its use in the roof was almost entirely avoided. The main beams are of pre-

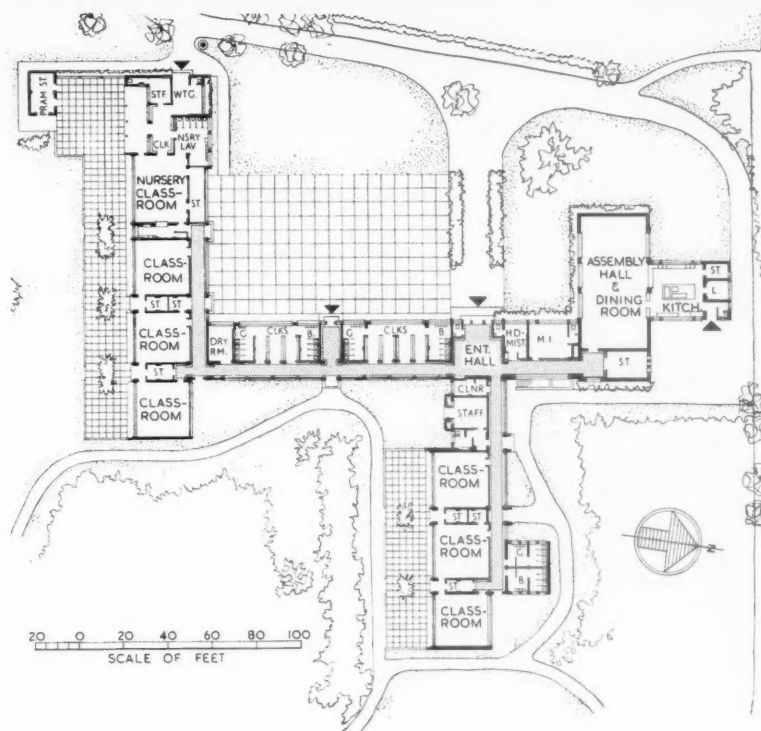


Top left: the eastern classroom block. Top right: the nursery classroom shows how the use of a flowered wallpaper gives the interior a friendly, intimate character. Below left: the assembly hall showing on the right the doors which cut off the kitchen service counters. Below right: a typical infants' classroom showing the folding-sliding windows

stressed concrete and carry aluminium roof decking, at 5-degree pitch, which is covered with 3-ply bituminous roofing felt. Ceilings are of suspended insulating board built up in squares with vee joints. Floors generally are of 'Granwood' blocks, except the lavatories and cloakrooms, where heather-brown quarry tiles were used; the nursery is floored with cork. The windows are of steel, those to the classrooms being folding-sliding so that a large area can be entirely opened. The use of attractive wallpapers in the entrance hall and classrooms adds much to the charm of the building and helps to avoid an 'institutional' flavour. Great care has been taken with the colour schemes, which are bright and cheerful.

Heating is by a gas-fired, thermostatically-controlled low-pressure hot-water system feeding convector units for the classrooms and hall, with radiators elsewhere. Convectors are housed in storerooms adjacent to the classrooms, air circulation being through high-level and low-level grids.

The builders were Messrs. H. Tyson Chambers Ltd., of Slough.





# The Hazard of the Domestic Fire

By J. F. Fry, B.Sc., A.M.I.C.E.

THROUGH THE AGES much of man's social activity has centred round the domestic fire in one form or another and from pre-historic times the fire has been regarded as a necessity of existence. Indeed its importance is so well established that 'hearth' and 'home' have become almost inseparable terms. This recognition of the value of the domestic fire has of necessity been accompanied by a wholesome respect for its potential dangers. The curfew (or *couvre feu*) was introduced, not merely to 'toll the knell of parting day', but as a signal that the fire must be made safe before the family retired for the night. The Elizabethan chimney was not just a decorative architectural feature, but a solid brick rampart against the spread of fire into the timber of which the building was largely constructed. And at the present time there are many bye-laws and regulations designed to reduce the hazard inseparable from the use of heating apparatus; a recent example being the law on the compulsory provision of effective guards on electric fires.

The average person might not unreasonably think that familiarity with both the good and the bad features of fire should have resulted in our houses being built in such a way as to reduce the risk to a minimum; and it is true that many useful lessons have come out of the bitter experiences of the past. Nevertheless it is a fact, and probably a surprising one to many, that during the last five years the domestic fire and its modern counterparts, the slow combustion stove, the oil stove, the gas fire and the electric heater, have been

responsible for about one in three of all fires in buildings attended by fire brigades in the United Kingdom.

**The Frequency of Fires Connected with Domestic Heating.** The Joint Fire Research Organization of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research and Fire Offices' Committee, by arrangement with the Home Office and local authorities, receives reports on all fires attended by fire brigades, and the table reproduced here was compiled from the data contained in these reports. It includes only those fires definitely attributable to heating appliances and omits those due to furnaces, cooking apparatus and apparatus using heat in other ways.

No more than a brief glance at the table is necessary to reveal a number of interesting facts about these fires. The first is that, although there are fluctuations in the figures, the overall picture presented by them is repeated year by year except in the case of chimney fires, which display a marked tendency to increase. Again, excluding chimney fires that spread beyond the chimney, there are some 8,000 fires each year directly connected with open fires, 1,200 to 1,500 connected with slow combustion stoves and 1,000 due to heat from flues. Electric heaters are responsible for about 1,000 fires a year and oil lamps and stoves for another 800 or 900. It cannot be denied that these figures are a clear indication that much still remains to be done to reduce the hazard of our heating systems.

How then can this problem be tackled?

It is true that by becoming more fire-conscious everybody could play an important part in preventing outbreaks of fire and that many fires are the result of carelessness. It is certain, however, that no amount of education and propaganda directed at the general public could be sufficient in itself and that effective action must come largely from the architect, the builder and the designer of heating appliances.

**Fires Starting in Structural Materials.** It is surprising to find that in spite of regulations, bye-laws and codes of practice there are still large numbers of fires every year in which structural materials are ignited by heating appliances. Some 2,000 to 3,000 of these involve structural timber under the hearths of open grates; 400 to 500 are due to ignition of structural woodwork by slow combustion stoves, and there are others not shown separately in the table, but included under the general headings such as 'chimney on fire' and 'flue'.

The problem of preventing these fires is not easy in the case of old houses, faults in the construction of which may become apparent only when a fire occurs, but in the construction of new houses and the modification of old ones the solution is fairly obvious. The householder is not in a position to help himself to any large extent, since he cannot be expected to be familiar with the technical building matters involved, and the responsibility for taking all possible precautions must lie mainly with architects and builders.

The important considerations in the design of hearths, fireplaces and chimneys should be well known to all concerned with building and their enumeration is unnecessary here; it must be borne in mind though that they apply not only to the construction of new buildings but also to the modification of old ones and, at all times, to the installation of new heating equipment.

Examples of bad construction are encountered all too frequently in both old and new buildings. The photographs shown in Figs. 1 to 3 illustrate a particular case in which a fire, fortunately not serious, resulted from bad construction. The fire was revealed in its incipient stages by the presence of wood smoke in the neighbourhood of the hearth and was successfully extinguished. Removal of the apparently innocent hearth shown in Fig. 1 disclosed that the floor boards continued beneath it, ending only a few inches from the grate itself; this can be seen from Fig. 2. When the tiled surround was removed it was found that there were floor joists also in close proximity to the grate, and these had been badly charred as shown in Fig. 3.

There are other less obvious factors to

## Fires Caused by Heating Appliances

Analysis of Reports from Fire Brigades in the United Kingdom, 1948-52

Supposed Cause of Fire	No. of Fires				
	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
Chimney on fire, not confined to chimney	235	256	668	1,192	2,556
Electric fire, heater, radiator	893	900	1,092	1,180	1,148
Fire in grate igniting—					
bedding, clothing, linen	912	940	1,192	1,096	1,044
furniture, furnishings	803	860	946	798	1,148
structural timber under hearth	2,625	2,948	3,212	1,956	2,592
other materials	3,284	3,248	4,096	3,616	3,888
Flue	915	744	730	848	956
Gas fire, heater, radiator	188	204	284	268	232
Oil lamp, stove	751	868	804	906	880
Slow combustion stove igniting—					
structural woodwork	372	416	516	378	496
other materials	806	800	992	942	1,164
TOTAL	11,784	12,184	14,532	13,180	16,104
Total fires in buildings	37,246	42,792	43,744	42,394	46,696

be remembered in connection with the ordinary fireplace. For example, the size and shape of a room can greatly affect the risk of fire; and a narrow room, necessitating the crowding of furniture, constructional woodwork and panelling around the fireplace, can give rise to serious dangers. So also can bad positioning of fireplaces in relation to built-in cupboards, shelves and doors in rooms of any size. The architectural virtues of many highly combustible materials such as plywood, wood veneers and fibre-boards are not denied, but their indiscriminate use in buildings can be a source of considerable danger, and care in the design of rooms is necessary to ensure that they are not too near to any source of heat liable to cause ignition.

**Chimneys and Flues.** Chimneys and flues play an important role as causes of fires in buildings, and there are several points worth mentioning in this connection. As in the case of hearth construction, we have the difficult problem of the old house in which there are badly constructed chimneys, but there is opportunity at least in the building of new houses and the modification of old ones to ensure that chimneys are constructed to the best standards. The main precautions to be remembered are of course the straightforward ones that the chimney should be well constructed to withstand the changes of temperature to which it will be subjected, that structural timber such as floor joists and roof timbers should be adequately protected from heat, that there should be no ledges or crevices likely to trap accumulations of soot and that provision should be made to enable the chimney sweep to carry out his job easily and thoroughly. The last two points are not infrequently overlooked when new fireplaces or stoves are connected into old chimneys.

Flue pipes in houses present problems of their own. The danger of fires being caused by objects coming into direct contact with hot flues is fairly obvious and the flues should be installed with due regard for this, but it has to be remembered that direct contact is not essential to start a fire in combustible materials.

As part of an investigation into the hazard of flue pipes, measurements were made at the Fuel Research Station of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research which indicated that under certain conditions (fire doors closed and ashpit door open) the lower part of the flue of a slow combustion stove might attain a temperature of about 1,500° F. (815° C.). Although this would be unusual, the normal operating temperature being about 200° F. (93° C.), a temperature of 932° F. (500° C.) could easily result from overrunning the stove or from a flue fire. This condition could give rise to dangerous heating of wooden panels in the vicinity of flue pipes, a problem which has been studied by the Joint Fire Research Organization and on which a Special Report<sup>1</sup> has been published.

The temperature attained by a vertical

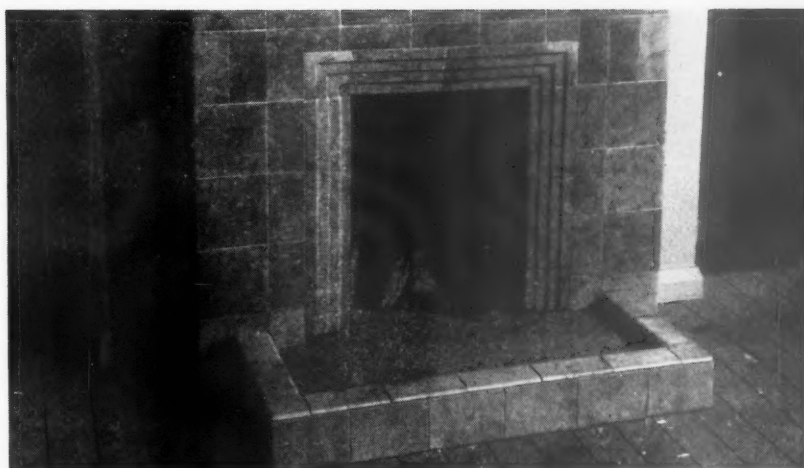


Fig. 1. General appearance of fireplace

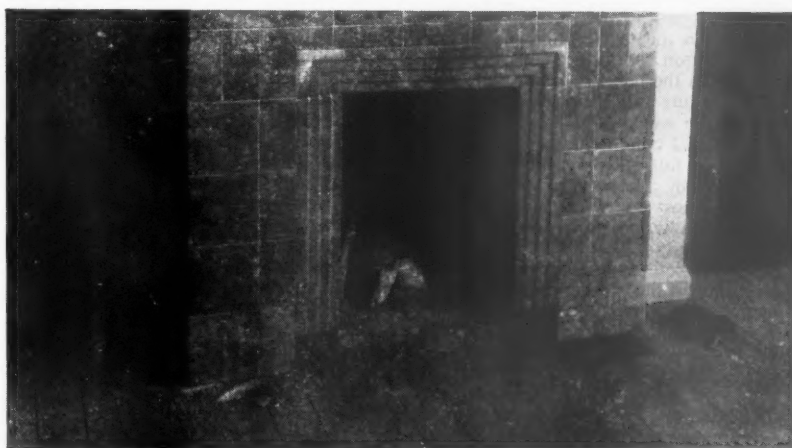


Fig. 2. Fireplace with hearth removed showing floor boards below hearth



Fig. 3. Fireplace with tiled surround removed showing charred joists

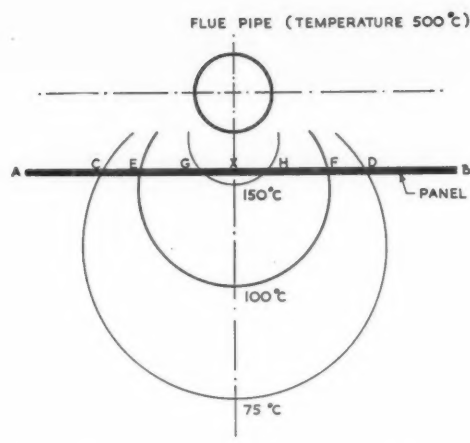


Fig. 4. Temperature of panel in vicinity of flue pipe after half an hour

panel exposed to radiation from a flue pipe depends upon the temperature of the flue pipe and upon its dimensions and its distance from the panel. The rate at which the temperature of the panel increases depends upon its density, its specific heat and its thermal conductivity, but this rate of increase is not uniform throughout the heating period. The temperature of the panel rises most rapidly when it is first exposed to radiation and most softwood panels will achieve about half of their final temperature rise in the first 5 minutes.

The results of the experimental work and mathematical analyses carried out can be summarised in the form of the diagram reproduced in Fig. 4, which may be directly scaled to the dimensions of any flue pipe; this shows the temperatures attained in half an hour by a wooden panel near a flue pipe at 500° C. AB represents a section of a wall near the pipe; its temperature would reach 75° C. at C and D, 100° C. at E and F, and 150° C. at G and H. If it is decided that a wood panel should not be repeatedly heated above say 100° C., then the panel surface should be placed further from the flue pipe than the distance indicated by the curve for that temperature. This may not always be practicable however, and it then becomes necessary to interpose a shield, for which asbestos cement is a suitable material, between the panel and the flue. If this course is adopted the effectiveness of the shield can be enhanced by spacing it at about  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. distance from the panel.

A particular fire hazard of flues studied by the Joint Fire Research Organization, and described briefly in the Annual Report of the Director of Fire Research 1951<sup>2</sup>, is that arising from the possible failure of asbestos cement flue pipes. Although asbestos cement pipes have been used satisfactorily for many years as flues for domestic boilers burning gas or non-flaming fuels, it has been found that they may crack or spall when long-flame fuels are used or when flue fires occur in them.

This is taken into consideration in British Standard Specification 835 (Asbestos cement flue pipes, heavy quality) in which it is indicated that no direct flame should come into contact with the flue pipe and that the temperature of the pipe should not exceed 500° F. The causes of this type of failure were examined experimentally, and it was found that the tendency to spall when subjected to severe heat from a luminous flame depended upon the moisture content of the asbestos-cement. If this was reduced to less than a certain critical value then spalling did not occur. Drying out the flue pipe initially by running the boiler at a fairly low temperature will prevent spalling, but only so long as the pipe is kept dry and not allowed to regain a moisture content above the critical value.

If asbestos cement flue pipes are heated strongly at a temperature of 600° C. or more they tend to develop a permanent shrinkage and to lose strength. As a result of this they are liable to develop cracks. A field investigation showed this to be the most common cause of failure, and in most cases it was found that the conditions producing cracking probably resulted from flue fires. It should be noted that lagging asbestos-cement pipes to reduce radiation to adjacent material has the effect of increasing the temperature of the pipe and hence the danger of cracking. Even pipes previously conditioned to prevent spalling will develop cracks when operated at temperatures above 600° C.

**The Value of Fire Guards.** One of the striking facts about fires due to open grates is that almost 1,000 of them each year are caused by the ignition of furniture and furnishings; a number that could be considerably reduced by the wider use of efficient spark guards. The use of guards must of course be the responsibility of the householder, but he would be encouraged to use them if the need for them were given adequate consideration in the design of the building and its fireplaces and stoves. In fact the guard might well be accepted as

an essential part of the heating appliance, just as machine guards are considered essential in the workshop. Here again there are opportunities for architects and builders to make their contribution towards the prevention of fires in the home.

**Fires Starting in Airing Linen.** About 1,000 fires a year are caused by fires in grates igniting bedding, clothing and linen, and in many of these incidents the object ignited has been placed near the fire to air after being laundered. This is not the only group of fires started in airing linen, however, and many are included among those caused by electric fires, gas fires and slow combustion stoves; airing linen is also often ignited by heat from flues, sometimes by contact in a linen cupboard through which the flue passes and sometimes by contact elsewhere, as for example when a 'spider' type of airing rack is fitted to the flue pipe. It is obviously a dangerous practice to place linen close to a source of ignition without taking due precautions against fire, but the airing of clothes is bound to be a problem for the housewife unless provision is made in the design of the house for carrying it out conveniently and efficiently. In this connection also properly designed fireguards and suitable arrangements for their use can be of great value, but the most satisfactory solution is likely to be better provision of adequate drying space or drying cabinets and linen cupboards.

**Conclusion.** In the past architects and builders have between them greatly reduced the hazard of the domestic fire, but the statistics quoted in this article are sufficiently striking to show that we are still a long way from having completely satisfactory domestic heating systems. It may be true to say that the danger of fire from this source can never be eliminated while our present forms of heating continue to be used. It is however quite certain that, merely by the application of existing knowledge, a great deal can still be done to reduce the heavy toll now exacted by fires caused by heating appliances.

#### Acknowledgment

The statistical and experimental work referred to in this paper form part of the programme of the Joint Fire Research Organization of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research and Fire Offices' Committee; the paper is published by permission of the Director, Fire Research.

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# Third Congress of the I.U.A.

By the Hon. Godfrey Samuel [F]

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THE THIRD CONGRESS of the International Union was held at Lisbon from 20 to 27 September and was attended by representatives of 35 countries; from Europe: Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, U.S.S.R., Poland, Czechoslovakia, Germany (W), Holland, Belgium, Great Britain, France, Spain, Portugal, Switzerland, Italy, Yugoslavia and Greece; from Asia: Turkey, Syria, Israel, Thailand and the Philippines; from Africa: Egypt; from the Americas: Canada, United States, Mexico, Cuba, Colombia, Brazil, Uruguay, Argentine and Chile; from Australasia: Australia and New Zealand.

Sir Patrick Abercrombie [F] again presided, and the British delegates were Professor Gordon Stephenson [F], Mr. C. H. Aslin [F], Mr. Mark Hartland Thomas [F], and the Hon. Godfrey Samuel [F]. Mr. William Allen [A] represented the Building Research Station.

After a formal opening at the Palace of the National Assembly in the presence of the President of the Portuguese Republic, a meeting of the Assembly was held, at which Mexico, Cuba, Germany, Chile and Uruguay were elected members of the Union. The first Plenary Session opened at the Foz Palace on the 21st with a lively address from the Union's President on 'Architecture at the Cross Roads'. As it will doubtless be published very shortly, no attempt will be made to summarise it here; suffice it to say that not all those who took part in the discussion accepted Sir Patrick's exhortation to leave aesthetic individualism on one side and social pre-occupations on the other, and to advance on a broad central highway. Indeed, one was left wondering at the end whether architecture was not in reality on an Inner Ring Road.

At this and subsequent plenary sessions simultaneous translations were provided in English, French, Portuguese and Spanish, by a new and highly successful miniature broadcasting system, which does not need to be 'plugged in'.

The Congress then divided into twelve working committees, each with its Chairman and Rapporteur, to discuss a number of set 'themes', on which written contributions had been submitted. These were:

1. *Architectural Education: the Qualities Required in an Architect.* Chairman: Baudouin (France). Rapporteur: Dunkel (Switzerland).
2. *The Place of the Architect in the Community: the Regulation of the Architectural Profession.* Chairman: Mardones (Chile). Rapporteur: Van der Steur (Holland).
3. *The Relations between Architects and Engineers: their Respective Roles.* Chairman: Gombos (Yugoslavia). Rapporteur: Schosberger (Germany).

4. *The Synthesis of the Plastic Arts: Collaboration between Architects and Artists.* Chairman: Ahlberg (Sweden). Rapporteur: Ceas (Italy).

5. *Town Planning.* Chairman: Gutton (France). Vice-Chairman: Klein (Israel).

(a) *The Position of the Architect in Town Planning.* Rapporteur: Stephenson (Great Britain).

(b) *Proposed Standardisation of Symbols.* Rapporteur: Hoechel (Switzerland).

6. *Housing.* Chairman: Piccinato (Italy). Vice-Chairman: Kitsikis (Greece).

(a) *Shelter.* Rapporteur: De Larosière (France: Morocco).

(b) *The Dwelling.* Rapporteur: Le Mème (France).

7. *School Construction: How to Satisfy the Urgent Need for School Building.* Chairman: Aslin (Great Britain). Rapporteur: Kump (U.S.A.), vice Roth (Switzerland).

8. *Industrialisation.* Chairman: Walker (U.S.A.). Vice-Chairman: Demaret (France).

(a) *Relations between Architects, Manufacturers and Contractors.* Rapporteur: Van Kuyck (Belgium).

(b) *Modular Co-ordination.* Rapporteur: Hartland Thomas (Great Britain).

The work was co-ordinated by a special committee consisting of J. P. Vouga (Switzerland), the Rapporteur General; Carlos Ramos (Portugal), the chief host of the Congress; Pierre Vago (France), Secretary General of the Union; Tchumi (Switzerland) and Samuel (Great Britain).

The conclusions of these studies, approved by the Congress as a whole, are given at the end of this report. Although they may not appear of great significance, the discussions that led up to them did provide opportunities for valuable exchanges of view and encouraging evidence of international collaboration. They may perhaps be divided into three groups:

(a) *The position of the architect* (1, 2, 3, 4, 5a, 8a, above). Here discussion served at least to clarify the difference between those who recognise the need for an overhaul of traditional ideas, probably the majority, and those who stand for the status quo.

(b) *Problems of the building programme* (6a, b, 7). Here the greatest value was perhaps in the exchange of information and opinions.

(c) *International standardisation* (5b, 8b). It is intended that Hoechel's interesting suggestions for an agreed set of town planning symbols for international use shall be discussed with the International Federation for Housing and Town Planning, and widely published for comment.



Jean Tchumi (Switzerland), the new President of the I.U.A.

Hartland Thomas's proposals for modular co-ordination in building components won a large measure of support, particularly for the use of a 4-in. module.

Although the practical value of this congress was undoubtedly greater than that of the second congress held in Rabat two years ago, it may still be asked whether it would not be better to have more papers on specialised and topical subjects by leading exponents, and fewer pious resolutions.

At the final session on 26 September new officers and a new executive were elected. Sir Patrick Abercrombie relinquished his presidency after five years and was succeeded by Jean Tchumi of Lausanne, President of the Swiss Section. Sir Patrick, as first President, has done more than anyone to make the Union a working reality, and the respect and affection in which he is held by all member countries were well expressed in his appointment as a second *Président d'Honneur*; the first is Auguste Perret. Arkady Mordvinov, President of the Academy of Architecture of the U.S.S.R., and G. B. Ceas, President of the Italian Section of the Union, join Ralph Walker of the United States as Vice-Presidents in place of Paul Vischer of Switzerland and Nicolas Barronov of the U.S.S.R., and W. Van Hove of Belgium replaces M. J. H. Van den Broek as Treasurer. As ordinary members of the Executive, Czechoslovakia, Egypt and Italy were replaced by Great Britain, Holland, Mexico and Portugal; Poland was re-elected by 28 out of 54 votes, after an exciting election in which the unsuccessful candidates were Chile, Cuba, Yugoslavia and Uruguay. Since the previous Congress, Australia, Austria, Canada, Colombia, Hungary and Ireland had left the Union and Chile, Cuba, Germany, Mexico and Uruguay had joined; the membership of Japan was under consideration.

At this session, formal diplomas of

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membership were distributed to certain countries, including Great Britain, which for some unexplained reason had not already received them. The British diploma is reproduced on p. 24; the background printing consists of the English and French versions of the following declaration made at the foundation of the Union:

'In the wake of tragedy which has spread ruin and mourning throughout the world, the architects of all countries have deemed it more necessary than ever to unite, to do so above political, economic and aesthetic frontiers, in a federation of their national organizations.

'The International Union of Architects, by facilitating and furthering the free exchange of ideas between architects, irrespective of their nationality, race, religion, their professional training and formation and their architectural doctrines, has as its purpose and intent the creation among them of relations of friendship, of understanding and mutual esteem to enable them to exchange their ideas and concepts, to profit by their mutual experience, to broaden their knowledge, to enrich each other by their mutual differences. They shall thereby be in a position to partake more effectively in the amelioration of man's conditions of life, by the reconstruction of devastated cities and villages, by the elimination of slums, by the equipping of the least developed regions, the raising of housing standards, doing so by making their contribution to a better understanding of men and peoples by attempting and striving to satisfy more and more their aspirations for material and spiritual well-being; in collaboration with other professional and cultural international organizations, they have resolved to contribute to the progress of human society and the strengthening of peace.'

The representative of this country on the Executive has still to be appointed by the British section, and at the final meeting in Lisbon his place was taken by the new *Président d'Honneur*.

Invitations had been received from Holland, Greece and Turkey, as well as from the United Kingdom, for the next Congress to be held in those countries in 1955. The offer from Great Britain was much appreciated, but after some discussion the Dutch invitation was accepted, and the Fourth Congress will take place probably in The Hague. The suggested theme is some aspect of Housing.

From 23 September an exhibition of photographs, admirably arranged by the Portuguese section at the Lisbon School of Art, was open to the public. Too many countries had failed to contribute, but there were good exhibits from Algeria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Great Britain, Greece, Holland, Italy, Yugoslavia and Portugal, identical in format but varying in style and quality. The British contribution, prepared at short notice, was not perhaps so effective photographically as those from Portugal, France, Algeria or Denmark (the last devoted entirely to schools), but it held its own and evoked a good deal of interest.

The organisation of the Congress by the Portuguese section, headed by Manuel de Sá e Melo, Director General of Town Planning Services, and Professor Carlos Ramos of Oporto, was a model of sympathetic efficiency. Among the several Portuguese architects responsible, the United Kingdom delegates will remember especially Leonardo de Castro Freire with his faultless English and his charming English wife.

The series of brilliant entertainments included a gala performance of music and ballet at the Saint Carlos Theatre, one of the many enchanting examples of local rococo architecture; a garden party at the Queluz Palace; another among the exotic plants of the 'Cold Greenhouse'; a third in the zoological gardens, enlivened by a company of folk dancers from a nearby fishing village and four 'Morris' dancers from local estates; and a ball at the Foz Palace. There were a number of memorable excursions too: one to Cintra, Cascais and Estoril; another through the new quarters of Lisbon, developing at impressive speed; and for those who were able to stay an extra day, a visit to Evora in Central Portugal, a city of great beauty and historical interest. Unfortunately none of the English delegates was able to join the three-day tour of Northern Portugal which followed.

The Congress has certainly established the Union more firmly as a professional forum, and although many of the published resolutions may be too oratorical for English tastes, there was much to be learnt from the discussions, and the occasion was made especially interesting by the welcome reappearance of representatives from the U.S.S.R., Poland and Czechoslovakia.

Future information on the Union is to be published in a bi-monthly I.U.A. REVIEW, which replaces a quite inadequate Bulletin, and of which the first number, published in Paris, appeared on the last day of the Congress.

## RESOLUTIONS

### I. The Training of the Architect

1. *Definition.* The architect is one who, master in the art of building, so orders space and so creates and enlivens places designed for human use that man may enjoy the best possible conditions for life.

2. *Qualities Required.* He should possess the art of composition, a knowledge of materials and techniques and experience of their use. By his natural gifts and by his education, faced with the realities of life, he should be able to grasp the spirit of his time, appreciate its human demands, and give them concrete expression.

3. *Training. Principles:* The training of the architect is a continuous process. It must be based on a wide culture and requires a constructive spirit. The architect must be an all-round person and acquire a proper balance through the simultaneous exercise of his physical, intellectual, aesthetic and moral faculties. It is through his basic knowledge of philosophy, science and technics, that he is qualified to examine

and judge human problems and to define co-ordinate and resolve them.

*Natural Gifts:* Whoever wishes to become an architect must be keen to learn and to create, and must have a lively intelligence, good sense and good judgment. He can acquire sensitivity to form, a feeling for space, imagination, visual memory, humanity and character.

4. *Conclusions.* The qualities required in an architect apply universally, but it is for each community to decide the best means of obtaining them, by its own choice of method. In practice it is suggested that education should be organised in three stages: Pre-entry, the selective phase (training of the man); School, the educational phase (training of the artist or technician, the creator); Post-graduate, the professional phase (training of the practitioner, the realiser). Research workers, theoreticians and teachers will undertake more advanced studies.

### II. The Place of the Architect in the Community. Professional Regulations

Without differentiating too precisely between these two problems, the Congress considered them in turn, and there is no reason why they should not be combined in a single conclusion, provided the more practical interest of the latter is distinguished from the more philosophical of the former.

(A) It would be rash to try to draw up without mature consideration a new set of professional regulations. It is recognised, however: 1. That the I.U.A. must work out a new body of regulations to take account of the general evolution of the profession. 2. That for this purpose the Code Guadet can be taken as a starting point, its moral basis being maintained. 3. That any new code must regulate the relations between partners and between principals and assistants, must provide for official architects and must deal with the special problems arising from developments in technique. For these last purposes the rules should be based on the conclusions of the I.U.A. Committees dealing with the problems of industrialisation and with the relations between architects, manufacturers and builders. 4. New rules must be framed, of course, in such general terms that they can be applied in different countries consistently with existing national legislation. 5. The Congress asks the Executive Committee of the I.U.A. to call upon the Committee on the Place of the Architect to submit definite proposals to the next Congress.

(B) As regards the place of the architect in the community, it is recognised that in accordance with the conclusions of the VIIIth Pan-American Congress, he should perform his task by working for the common good in the knowledge of actual economic and spiritual conditions. His artistic and technical skill, placed at the service of man, must enable the needs of the individual, of the family and of the community to be satisfied, through the search for human solutions.



Arkady Mordvinov, President of the Academy of Architecture of the U.S.S.R., and Helena Syrkus of Poland



The President of the I.U.A., Sir Patrick Abercrombie, and the Secretary-General, Pierre Vago

The Committee proposes to submit to the national sections for discussion and comment the following outline declaration:

1. The architect should practise his art inspired by the highest social, cultural and professional ideals. It is his duty to develop continuously his artistic ability and scientific knowledge for the better accomplishment of his work. 2. The architect conceives, creates, co-ordinates and realises the best possible provision for human environment, whether for work or leisure, with a constant care for beauty, for the well-being of the community and for respect for human personality. 3. To be able to express the spiritual aspirations of his age and to satisfy its needs, the architect must have a complete knowledge and understanding of the environment—physical, demographic, economic, political, social and cultural—in which he lives and works. He must look upon his own personal activity within the framework of a general plan, which it is his business at every level—local, regional, national and international—both to inspire and to control. 4. The architect must not subordinate his art to any commercial consideration. No compromise is possible with professional ethics. He must be conscious of his membership of a professional body that demands the highest moral qualities and is governed by a spirit of brotherhood.

### III. Relations between Architects and Engineers

1. The necessity for and importance of the relations between architects and engineers are fully recognised. 2. The more productive the collaboration between architects and engineers, the greater the progress in building construction. 3. It is recognised that the profession of architect is distinct from that of engineer and that each is free to seek the collaboration of the other, when this is considered necessary. 4. The definition of their respective functions should form the subject of an agreement between them. 5. The training of the architect should enable him to speak the technical

language of each specialist engineer, while the engineer should learn to appreciate the meaning of architecture. 6. It is for the architect to originate the design and to direct and co-ordinate all those engaged in realising it.

### IV. Synthesis of the Plastic Arts

1. Recognising the importance of collaboration with painters, sculptors and other artists, and the need for a closer integration of these arts in the architecture of our time, architects call on these other artists for mutual discussion with a view to joint action.

2. A fruitful collaboration cannot be established by the subordination of the artist to the architect; they should be on an equal footing as members of a team, with a common aim and a common standard of work.

3. In no case should artists, required to collaborate on architectural work, be forced on the architect.

4. A mutual understanding and a desire for collaboration between architects, painters and sculptors should be developed by every possible means, from school onwards. It is important that the architect should fully appreciate contemporary developments in the other arts.

5. If it is desirable to stimulate a mutual appreciation of work, for example through publications and exhibitions, it is no less necessary to establish personal contacts.

6. The synthesis of the arts cannot be achieved by outside measures: action by governments or professional bodies, congresses, etc. Such institutions can only act indirectly, by creating, stimulating and encouraging the development of contacts between artists, education in the arts and better material conditions, so that this collaboration between artists may emerge from the realm of theory and special cases as a practical development on a large scale.

7. The introduction of painting, sculpture, etc., into a building (or group of buildings)

should be provided for in the initial estimates, in the same way as are the purely material requirements. The amount to be allowed for this purpose should be related to the importance of the building and to its purpose and position. Such provisions should be handled in exactly the same way as the other items.

8. The Congress asks the Executive Committee of the I.U.A. to consult with UNESCO, the International Association for the Plastic Arts, and the national sections of the Union, on the practical measures required to give effect to these recommendations.

### V. Town Planning

(a) *The Position of the Architect in Town Planning.* This Congress proposes that the resolution of the 1948 Congress concerning the position of the architect in town planning should be reaffirmed.

'Town planning is both an art and a science. Its aim is the better use of land for community purposes within a framework of local, regional and national plans which should be established by social policies.

'Today, it embraces activities which are so varied that the architect cannot work alone in the field and without further education. The study of town planning problems necessarily involves team-work under the direction of a person with extensive knowledge, the ability to co-ordinate, and with a feeling for harmony in space and time. Through his education the architect possesses the qualities required for the direction of these studies. As an artist and technician, he could not claim to be a town planner today unless he has grasped the importance of social and economic problems. The reconstruction of war-damaged towns, slum clearance, the design of open spaces, etc., are examples of some of the work which he will undertake with the improvement of social conditions as the objective.

'Scientific and analytical studies are essential in the establishment of a pro-





9. The standards should be based on two essential principles: prevention of promiscuity and provision for elementary hygiene.

10. Such shelter should be given an essential family character which rules out, except in extreme emergencies, solutions based on communal hostels.

11. The minimum cell which should constitute the core of any such shelter is that required for the life of a married couple. This cell must be capable of expansion, the object being to ensure the privacy of the parents and the separation at adolescence of the two sexes.

12. The purely temporary shelter should be designed in such a way as to be readily removed after a period of say 15 to 20 years. One can also envisage a less temporary type that could be adapted to last for one or two generations. The simplest method would be to construct the initial cell first and to add by stages supplementary units up to a limit fixed by regulation.

13. To ensure a rapid rate of construction governments should promote the formation of groups of 'self-help' builders<sup>1</sup> giving them official recognition and encouraging them by all available means, especially by the supply of materials or pre-fabricated components as cheaply as possible.

#### (b) The dwelling

14. The Housing Sub-Committee of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe asked the I.U.A. to help in defining the housing needs for the family. To answer this question, the I.U.A. will assemble the documents presented at this Congress and try to synthesise them; its investigation will be widened to include a selection of the best recent housing plans—a necessary first step in any objective study of the problem.

15. In conclusion, having analysed those reports that have tried to determine a lower limit below which dimensional reductions cease to be really economic, the Congress considers that such reports provide a sound factual basis. They show that any attempt to fix an exact limit must come up against a number of indeterminate factors, making any premature conclusions a matter of some delicacy. The pursuit of this inquiry in each country will help to remove most of the indeterminate factors, if it is undertaken systematically.

### VII. School Building

This Congress endorses the preliminary report on school building prepared in 1952 at the request of UNESCO and hopes that the field of investigation on which it was based may be widened to include particularly Latin America and the Middle and Far East.

<sup>1</sup> In the original French of the resolution the term used is *groupements de 'castors'* which is taken to mean groups of persons or families which are formed to build dwellings for themselves, possibly with state or municipal help and guidance. *Editor.*

On the urgent need for new school buildings it affirms:

1. That the causes of this shortage are: (a) Introduction or extension of compulsory education. (b) Increase in the birth rate. (c) Movement of displaced persons. (d) Immigration. (e) Obsolescence of existing schools. (f) War damage.

2. That the means of overcoming this shortage depend on: (a) Financial resources of the country in question. (b) Type and quantity of building materials available. (c) Type and quantity of building labour available. (d) Level of technical and professional ability. (e) Standards of manufacture and of construction. (f) Industrial capacity of the country. (g) Climate and topography of the country.

3. That there can be no general solutions to such complex problems and that in order to attempt to overcome them, one must have: (a) A clear idea of the educational policy of the country. (b) A detailed study of the needs of the country in terms of this policy. (c) A programme based on the factors listed in paragraph 1 above. (d) A detailed study of each of the factors listed in paragraph 2 above.

4. The following recommendations can contribute towards the solution of the problems: (a) Active collaboration, both national and international, between architects, teachers and the various experts concerned. (b) Consultation by the responsible authority with an architect adviser before any programme of school building is put in hand. (c) In order to ensure the quickest and cheapest construction, the fixing of minimum areas by the responsible authority only in so far as they are required for a sound education, and then in modular terms. (d) When transport difficulties and the cost of specialised labour require it, the use of local materials. (e) In other cases where substantial economies can be effected, the use of standardised and pre-fabricated components. (f) Financial provision by the responsible authority to meet the building programme over a number of years.

### VIII. Industrialisation

(a) *Relations between Architect, Manufacturer and Contractor.* 1. This Congress, recognising that the industrialisation of building is both inevitable and advantageous, reaffirms the position adopted at the Second Congress at Rabat. Building is the only important industry in which designers, manufacturers and assemblers do not yet work together as a team. In the increased scope and complexity of operations due to industrialisation, the individual architect cannot on his own tackle all the multifarious problems involved, and architectural practice now requires the organisation of teams of people each contributing one or more of the special skills required.

2. This Congress, being concerned, amongst other things, with the effect of this development upon the architect's professional code, particularly in the future



Left: Professor Carlos Ramos (Portugal), President of the Congress. Right: Professor Alexander Klein (Israel)

relations with manufacturers and contractors

3. recognises that, whilst on the one hand the architect who is a member of a team and includes ready-made components in his designs forgoes a part of his freedom in detailing; yet on the other hand he is able to make this concession with less reluctance, if the manufacturers concerned have made use of specialist architects for the design of the components that they produce.

4. This Congress resolves that: (1) The architect should in future complete his education with a general course in industrial method, so as to give him an understanding of the problems of the specialists with whom he will have to work and whose contributions he should be able to co-ordinate. (2) Within the profession itself, architects should themselves more often become specialists in one or more of the aspects of industrialisation. (3) The architect's professional code should be revised as necessary to conform to the new situation.

(b) *Modulation Co-ordination.* (A) (1) This Congress, recognising that modular co-ordination has proved to be an essential condition for the industrialisation of building, reaffirms the position adopted at the Congress at Rabat; (2) recognises that the module of 4 in. or 10 cm. is already the one most widely used in most countries, and has proved itself the proper increment of building dimensions; (3) recommends (a) that the I.U.A. adopt this module (10 cm. or 4 in.); (b) that architects who have not already adopted this module should do so and should use their influence to extend its use throughout the building industry; (c) that the International Standards Organisation should be requested to take steps to implement the adoption of the 10-cm. or 4-in. module throughout the world.

(B) This Congress, recognising that the difference between the metric and the inch systems of measurement presents an ever-increasing obstacle to the interchange of information and of products for building; recommends that the I.U.A. calls upon UNESCO to initiate studies towards an international convention for the equalisation of the two measures.

# Review of Construction and Materials

This section gives technical and general information. The following bodies deal with specialised branches of research and will willingly answer inquiries.

The Director, The Building Research Station, Garston, near Watford, Herts.  
Telephone: Garston 2246.

The Officer-in-charge, The Building Research Station Scottish Laboratory, Thorntonhall, near Glasgow.  
Telephone: Busby 1171.

The Director, The Forest Products Research Laboratory, Princes Risborough, Bucks.  
Telephone: Princes Risborough 101.

The Director, The British Standards Institution, 2 Park Street, London, W.1.  
Telephone: Mayfair 9000.

The Director, The Building Centre, 26 Store Street, Tottenham Court Road, London, W.C.1.  
Telephone: Museum 5400 (10 lines).

The Director, The Scottish Building Centre, 425-7 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow, C.2.  
Telephone: Douglas 0372.

**Productivity in House-Building.** The first report under this title was published as *National Building Study Special Report No. 18*; the second report has now been issued as *Special Report No. 21* and contains the results of an inquiry by the Building Research Station into the causes of high and low productivity in the house-building industry at the present time. The survey was concerned with local authority contracts for traditional houses of the two-storey type, mostly with three bedrooms, the earliest contract being started in October 1947 and the latest being completed in March 1951; information being collected from the main contractors' records of 177 completed contracts and from more than 1,000 sub-contractors who were employed on them, the data being related mainly to the labour expenditure per house and particularly to the man-hours required by the individual trades. For the purposes of the survey England and Wales were divided into three regions, the North, Midlands and South. The London region was excluded and also houses built by direct labour, but Appendix 4 gives tables relating to these two classes.

The average number of man-hours expended on the average traditional three-bedroom house was found to be 2,665, excluding work on service pipes and cables for gas and electrical installations; this figure includes main contractor and sub-contractor labour and relates to the average house in which about 25 per cent of the work was sub-contracted. Contracts of highest productivity were generally in the Midlands and North, the difference between the regions being mainly confined to the trades involving site work, bricklaying and painting, but it is to be remembered that the larger brick (2½ in. or 3 in.) is used almost invariably in the North. The labour expenditure of sub-contractors was generally lowest in the Midland region.

Productivity was found to be high on contracts with incentive schemes, on contracts directly supervised by the main contractor, and where the contractor was experienced in house-building. There was evidence that incentives had effected a reduction of man-hours per house of about 15 per cent and had their greatest value on

large sites where adequate supervision of all operatives was often difficult.

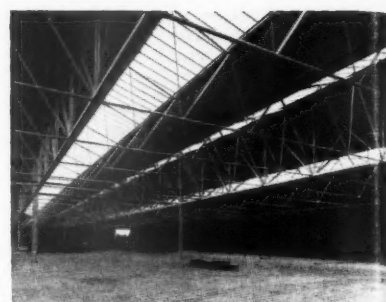
On all the contracts examined a part of the work was sub-contracted, but sub-contracting was rather less frequent in the North than in the Midlands and South. In the trades of plasterer, plumber and painter the labour expenditure of sub-contractors was, on average, between 17 and 26 per cent less than that of the main contractors, and this suggests that the methods and organisation of the sub-contractors resulted in a reduction in labour expenditure when compared with the main contractor's performance.

Evidence of the effect of good supervision is provided by the high productivity of the 'working principal' sub-contractors and of the small main contractors who directly supervised the work on the sites.

The Special Report is published by H.M.S.O., price 1s. 9d. net.

**The Cost of House Maintenance.** The Ministry of Housing and Local Government have published the report of the Committee of Inquiry set up by the Minister 'to consider and report on the relationship of the present annual cost with that ruling in 1939 of maintaining house property in good tenable repair, having regard to the relative cost of wages, materials, overheads and rates of profit'. Mr. J. G. Girdwood, C.B.E., was the chairman. Information was obtained from local authorities, property companies and trusts, and firms or individuals concerned with building or property management. The method of comparison adopted by the committee was to analyse the cost of maintenance in 1939 and calculate the appropriate increase in cost to 1953 for each item. The types of dwellings dealt with ranged from large blocks of tenement flats let at very low rentals to flats of the luxury class, and from late 19th- or early 20th-century houses or cottages to modern council houses.

A typical sub-division of labour and materials cost in 1939 would be 73 per cent labour and 27 per cent materials; in 1953 it would be respectively 73.4 per cent and 26.6 per cent. In a Grade A district, taking 100 as the index of cost of labour for a given quantity of work in 1939, the figure



Messrs. Tubewrights' welded tubular steel frame factory. The columns running the length of the building are 120 ft. apart

for 1953 would be 318. For materials again taking 100 as the index figure for 1939, the figure for 1953 would be 311. The 1953 index figure for the cost of maintaining a house in good tenable repair is 316 as against 100 for 1939, the respective figures for labour being £73 in 1939 and £232 in 1953; materials being £27 and £84. The average wage in 1939 for a 44-hour week was £3 4s. 6d. exclusive of 1s. 11d. for extra payments; for 1953 the figures are £7 9s. 9d. and 9s.

The title of the report is *The Cost of House Maintenance*; it can be obtained from H.M.S.O. price 9d. net.

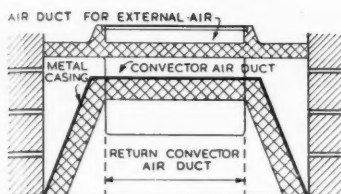
**Welded Tubular Steel Framing.** The possibilities of welded tubular structures are shown in a factory now being built for Messrs. Tubewrights, Ltd., at the Kirkby trading estate, Liverpool. Except for the rolled angle glazing purlins the building is entirely welded tubular steel construction. The main girders are latticed, spanning 120 ft. and welded to 16-in. diameter tubes with welded base-plates resting on concrete foundations, and the holding-down bolts are the only bolts used in the construction. Bays are of 40-ft. and 60-ft. span; the 40-ft. trusses being of the butterfly type; the 60-ft. trusses being flat pitched. The main girders weigh 6½ tons each, the 40-ft. trusses 8 cwt. and the 60-ft. 12 cwt.

The weight of steel per sq. ft. of floor space works out at about 6½ lb., which is estimated to be 40 per cent less than if bolted or riveted rolled steel sections had been used, and the lessened area of metal to be painted is in about the same proportion. Points of lodgement for dust and dirt are less in welded construction, or are at least easier to clean.

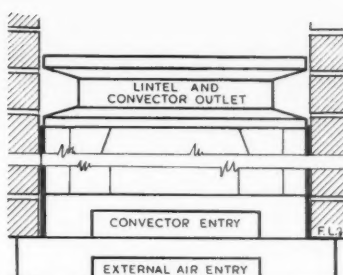
The tubes were delivered cut to approximate lengths and were shaped and welded on the site, and this is believed to be the first example of such procedure. After assembly, the 120 ft. 6½ ton main girders were placed in position in an average time of seven minutes each, and the whole of the work of fabrication, erection and welding of the 415 tons of steelwork was carried out in 4½ months, only two mobile cranes being used.

**Marley Floor Tiles.** The Marley Tile Company wish it to be known that the correct description of their floor tiles is: Marley thermoplastic floor tiles.

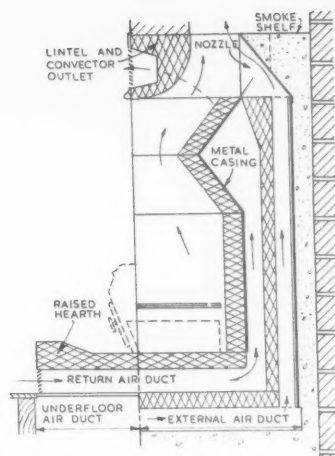




Plan of the Reff space heater



Elevation of the Reff space heater



Section through the Reff space heater

**A New Idea in Fireplace Design.** Since the introduction, somewhere about the 12th century, of the chimney as we know it today its general form has not altered much, although in the 18th century Count Rumford made suggestions regarding the design of the throat at the top of the fireplace opening, with a view to preventing smoke from eddying into the room; suggestions which have proved to be sound.

One problem remains, the elimination of draughts in the room. In the common type of open fire, air from the room passes through the fire and the products of combustion, as well as most of the heat, go up the flue and in doing so suck air into the flue from under the lintel arch; thus an excessive and unnecessary amount of air is drawn from the room and has to be replaced by cold air sweeping across the floor from under the door or from other leakage points such as ill-fitting windows. With recently-introduced convector fires this withdrawal of excess air is to some extent lessened, especially when air to the convection chamber in the heating appliance is drawn from outside the room through an underfloor duct, but still all the air passing into the flue, whether through the fire or by suction under the lintel arch, comes from the room and this causes an unnecessarily large number of air changes per hour and low fuel efficiency.

A German inventor, now resident in this country, was aware that in some parts of Germany chimneys are built as one flue into which the various stoves in the building discharge their products of combustion without causing down-draught, even into rooms where the stove is not alight; this is because the bottom of the flue is left open, the laws of convection ensuring a continual upward current in the flue.

Pondering over this, the German inventor wondered if he could devise a system which would adapt the open flue principle to an individual fireplace, and he has now patented and put into production the Reff Space Heater. In essence this is a convector fire drawing air from the room, heating it in an airway passing behind and round the fireback and discharging the warmed air back into the room in the usual way, but in the Reff appliance there is a second airway behind the convector channel, and through this second airway air is drawn from outside the room through a sub-floor duct and passes up behind the convector channel, through a special nozzle, direct into the flue. There this air mingles with the products of combustion rising from the fire. There is practically no suction of air under the lintel arch, the radiant heat of the fire is

reflected into the room from the back of the fire and the warm convected air fills the room. The result is that the number of changes of air is reduced from seven or eight per hour to the one or one-and-a-half now recommended by authorities on house-warming. Of course, the air required for combustion of the fuel comes from the room, but the amount is small as it does not have to replace the excess air sucked under the lintel arch by the usual type of fireplace; a gentle flow from under the door or other points of leakage is all that is required, and unpleasant draughts are eliminated.

The JOURNAL recently inspected a demonstration Reff appliance built into an existing fireplace opening, the air for the second airway being drawn from a cellar below. The window of the room was weather-stripped so that the air for combustion came from under the door, but tests indicated only a slight current and there was no suggestion of cold feet. Tests in the cellar showed that a rapid current of air was passing up the second airway behind the fire, direct into the flue.

The Reff space heater is made in specially-shaped parts, in concrete containing a refractory cement, designed to fit into a 16-in. or 18-in. opening. The back and sides of the fire block and upper and lower reflectors are lined with metal. The convector lintel is supported by the metal outlet grille, so it can remain in place if it ever becomes necessary to renew the fire blocks.

The appliance can be fitted with a boiler, and in this case the boiler takes the place of the fire block. Dimensions are: height overall 25 in., width overall 19 in., depth overall 12½ in.

Inquiries should be addressed to the Reff Allied Products Ltd., Ardenham House, 1 Whitehall Street, Aylesbury, Bucks.

**B.S. Handbook No. 3: 1953.** The British Standards Institution have published a new edition of this useful handbook, and it has been re-arranged into five main sections, several having sub-sections. Standards of like products have been brought together to simplify comparison of specifications which were previously spread throughout the volume, as they were arranged in numerical order. Standards relating to electrical and gas installations have been omitted because such work is normally

under the control of consultants and specialist contractors. A very detailed subject index is included.

This revised handbook can be obtained from the B.S.I., price 30s.

**Insulation of Buildings.** The Structural Insulation Association have issued the seventh edition of their booklet, *How to Insulate Buildings*, giving the thermal transmittance, or U-value, of various structural insulating materials and kinds of construction used in houses and industrial and public buildings.

Interested persons may obtain the booklet from the Association, 32 Queen Anne Street, Cavendish Square, London, W.1.

**Timbers for House Building.** Under this title the Timber Development Association have produced their *Use Guide No. 1*, enumerating the uses to which the large number of timbers now available may be put in house building. The various uses are listed alphabetically, ranging from ceiling joists to wood laths for plastering, and under each heading suitable softwoods are set out in one column and hardwoods in another. The booklet ends with an appendix giving a list of hard and softwoods, with their trade, vernacular and botanical names, countries of origin, and approximate weights.

This *Use Guide* can be obtained from the T.D.A., 21 College Hill, London, E.C.4, or from the Regional Officers throughout the country.

**British Standards Recently Published**  
B.S. 690: 1953. *Asbestos-cement Slates and Sheets.* This is a revision of the previous B.S. 690: slates with chamfered corners have been omitted, and also some of the sizes for corrugated sheets as a result of the manufacturers' policy of co-ordinating output for interchangeability. Price 4s.

B.S. 2015: 1953. *Glossary of Paint Terms.* This Standard gives a list of some 300 terms used in paintwork, with their meaning, illustrated by a few photographs where they assist the written definition. Price 6s.

# Practice Notes

Edited by Charles Woodward [A]

**MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT.** On 1 October the South-Eastern Regional Office of the Ministry was transferred from Tunbridge Wells to London. The new address is Ministry of Housing and Local Government (South-Eastern Region), Whitehall, London, S.W.1 (Telephone VICTORIA 8540). Personal callers should go to Caxton House, Tothill Street, S.W.1.

Mr. J. E. Beddoe, Assistant Secretary, will be Principal Regional Officer in charge.

**National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act, 1949.** Circular 58/53 dated 14 October refers to the survey of public rights of way, the preparation of draft maps, the hearing of objections and the rights of landowners.

The Minister understands that some authorities who are publishing their draft maps in parts are having difficulty in dealing with objections and representations about paths which cross from one part to another. A simple solution which has been suggested is to allow the production of evidence relating to the whole length of the path, including such part of it as is outside the draft map under review, since such evidence is clearly relevant to the length of path under discussion and should be treated as admissible. Representations or objections to the effect that a way shown on a draft map as a 'bridleway' is in fact a 'road used as a public path', or vice versa, have sometimes been made, presumably with a view to establishing the existence or absence of public rights other than on foot or on horseback; and on occasions the view has been expressed that the provisions of Section 27 (6) and Section 32 (4) are conflicting. The Minister thinks that the following comments might be helpful; it will be understood that any question on the interpretation of the Act is a matter for the Courts.

The survey provisions of the Act are only directed to establishing the existence of such rights of way as are proper to footpaths and bridleways, and are not intended to settle the question whether the public have any other rights over such ways (e.g. a right of way for wheeled traffic). The surveying authorities are also required to show any way which in their opinion was 'a road used as a public path', that is to say a highway which is used mainly but not entirely for walking or riding (e.g. a green way such as the Berkshire Ridgeway). Section 27 (6) gives a legal definition of both a 'bridleway' and a 'road used as a public path' but whether a way is shown as a 'bridleway' or as a 'road used as a public path' the survey will only determine (in the words of Section 32 (4)) 'that the public had there-over a right of way on foot and a right of way on horseback or leading a horse'. It has been suggested in some quarters that a definitive map showing a way as a 'road

used as a public path' would provide prima facie evidence on the question of rights other than on foot or on horseback, but it is difficult to see that a Court would accept such evidence in the face of the specific provision of Section 32 (4) that 'this paragraph shall be without prejudice to any question whether the public had any right of way other than the rights aforesaid'.

**Selling Price and Rental of Houses built or converted under licence.** Circular 60/53 dated 20 October addressed to housing authorities in England refers to the Government's decision not to extend the control on the selling price and rental of houses built or converted under licence after 20 December next. Licences authorising the construction of new houses or the conversion of existing premises into dwellings should now be issued without any condition restricting the figure at which they may be sold or let. From 20 December next conditions as to price and rental imposed in licences already issued will cease to be enforceable and entries in the Land Charges Register should accordingly be cancelled.

This decision does not affect premises subject to the Rent Restriction Acts. In general, any rent at which any such premises have been let, or are let after 20 December next, will be the standard rent and subject to the jurisdiction of a Rent Tribunal.

The Minister is advised that the arrangements for the sale of Council houses under Sections 3 and 4 of the Housing Act 1952 remain unchanged by the decision not to extend the control in respect of houses built or converted under a building licence.

**Requisitioned Premises.** Circular 59/53 dated 28 October addressed to housing authorities in England and Wales refers to the Working Party's Second Interim Report on requisitioned properties in use for housing. Authorities are asked to make a real effort to reduce their holdings of such property and their attention is drawn to the suggested ways and means referred to in the First Report together with those in the Second Report.

The Second Report is obtainable at H.M. Stationery Office, price 6d. net.

**Planning Appeals.** Circular 61/53 dated 26 October addressed to local planning authorities in England states that the number of appeals in recent months has been increasing, and that appeals in general mean delay. There are a number of points on which advice has already been given to which some authorities could with advantage pay more attention. These points were dealt with in Circular 69/49 dated 17 March 1949, when the number of appeals had been rising, and the authority is asked to study that Circular again.

The main points the Minister desires to emphasise are: (a) Where there is no clear and specific reason for refusing permission or attaching conditions, the applicant should be given 'the benefit of the doubt'. Development should always be encouraged

unless it will cause demonstrable harm to an interest of acknowledged importance. (b) Where permission is refused, or conditions imposed, the reasons should be clearly explained to the applicant in language which anyone can understand. Many authorities make a practice of explaining what they have in mind in discussion with the applicant in advance of issuing the formal decision, and those authorities who have not adopted this practice are invited to do so. This should be particularly valuable where some modification of the proposal, or a shift to an alternative site, would meet the objection.

Attention is called to Circular 58/53 dated 10 September 1951 regarding the Memorandum on the drafting of planning permissions. Attention is drawn in particular to the paragraphs dealing with the imposition of conditions; appeals frequently arise from the use of conditions which are inappropriate to the case or are badly expressed.

Circular 61/53 is obtainable at H.M. Stationery Office, price 2d.

(Note. Circular 69/49 was referred to in the JOURNAL for April 1949 at p. 284 and Circular 58/51, together with the Memorandum, in the JOURNAL for October 1951 at p. 486. This Circular and Memorandum are obtainable at H.M. Stationery Office, price 4d., under the title of *The Drafting of Planning Permissions*. The Memorandum was again referred to in the JOURNAL for September 1953, at p. 456.)

It is interesting to note that Lord Silkin the Minister responsible for piloting the Town and Country Planning Act through Parliament, in addressing recently the Scottish National Housing and Town Planning Council, expressed views strongly critical of the administration of planning. Lord Silkin said he had been shocked at the 'unhelpful and obstructive' way planners have used the powers provided under the Act, and complained that public inquiries against decisions of planning authorities 'have all the paraphernalia of a murder trial. The little man who is the objector almost feels that he is on a criminal charge'. He went on to say that he has found that too many local authorities regard it as their job to stop development rather than to encourage it. Their failure to recognise the principle that the intending developer should be allowed to proceed unless his proposals are in some way opposed to the public interest is the more galling since the cost of bringing appeals is heavy where it is considered necessary to employ counsel and expert witnesses, in addition to solicitors, and these costs are not recoverable even if the appeal succeeds.)

**New Tradition Houses. Regional Prices.** Circular 63/53 dated 29 October states that as from 1 December tendering for new tradition houses should conform to the ordinary procedure. Accordingly the Minister has decided that regional prices shall not operate after 30 November. It will be apparent that, in order to achieve the lowest possible costs, those responsible

for the production and erection of new tradition houses require a reasonable continuity of orders, and local authorities are asked to continue to co-operate with the firms concerned so that the full potentialities of the new methods, including lower costs, may be realised.

**NATIONAL JOINT COUNCIL FOR THE BUILDING INDUSTRY. Qualified Benders and Fixers.** The following decision of the Council operated as from 12 October:

'Qualified Benders and Fixers of bars for reinforced concrete work, employed whole time as such, on satisfying the employer that they are able to read and understand drawings and bending schedules and to set out the work, shall be paid a Differential Rate of 2d. per hour below the current standard craftsman's rate, and shall provide themselves with the following tools: pliers, chisels, hammers and hacksaw frames.

'Nothing in the above decision shall prevent simple bar-bending or fixing processes from being performed by labourers at the labourer's rate.

'The onus of proof of training in this class of work must be on the operative concerned and the onus of checking the proof submitted must be on the employer.'

(Note. The effect of this decision is that a qualified bender's and fixer's rate is raised by 1d. per hour.)

**Night Gang. Extra Payment.** As from 12 October the night gang extra payment prescribed in National Working Rule 5 is increased from 4d. to 5d.

**NATIONAL BUILDINGS RECORD.** The Annual Report of the National Buildings Record for the period ending 12 April last has been issued. The Earl of Rosse, Chairman of the Georgian Group, and Professor Sir William Holford are now members of the Council of Management.

The Report stresses the fact that until the Council have more resources they cannot keep up with the demolitions going on all over the country. It has been pointed out over and over again that the cost of recording is a mere fraction of the money needed for preservation, and if in the great majority of cases it is found impossible to save the building, an architectural and photographic survey should at least be ensured so that the design as well as the historical changes may be on record and available for future study.

During the past year 17,776 items have been added to the collection of prints and drawings, which now stands at a total of 413,928.

The National Buildings Record is supported by an annual grant from the Treasury and its functions are to maintain a library of photographs and measured drawings of English and Welsh architecture which is open to the public for consultation and study; to supply copies of photographs where negatives are available; to prepare and acquire additional records and to maintain an index of architectural records, measured drawings, photographs, sketches, and engravings in public and private possession.

Communications should be addressed to the Director, National Buildings Record, 37 Onslow Gardens, London, S.W.7. Telephone KENSington 8161.

**THE COST OF HOUSE MAINTENANCE.** The Report of the Girdwood Committee on The Cost of House Maintenance has now been published and is obtainable at H.M. Stationery Office, price 9d.

**'HOUSES. THE NEXT STEP.'** This is the title of the White Paper presented by the Minister of Housing and Local Government to Parliament. The White Paper is obtainable at H.M. Stationery Office, price 9d. A summary of the White Paper, *Operation Rescue*, is also obtainable, price 3d.

The Government's proposals require legislation, and until the Bill becomes an Act of Parliament the proposals can only be looked at as proposals, and the passage of the Bill through both Houses of Parliament may result in amendments.

The first proposal is to allow a Repairs Increase to the rent of an annual amount equal to twice the statutory repairs deduction for the house concerned. The rent will not be allowed to rise to more than twice the gross value of the house for rating purposes. A house with a gross rateable value of £25, for example, would have a maximum permitted rent of £50 a year or 19s. 3d. a week. If the present rent is already 19s. 3d. or more no increase at all will be allowed. If the present rent is less than 19s. 3d. and more than 13s. 10d. per week, then the permitted rent increase is to be limited to the difference between the present rent and 19s. 3d., with a maximum increase of 5s. 5d. if the present rent is 13s. 10d. or less.

There are safeguards and conditions necessary before the landlord can demand payment of the Repairs Increase. The house must be in a good general state of repair, the landlord must show that he has recently spent a sum of money on repairs, being either six times the statutory deduction spent during a designated three-year period, or three times the statutory deduction spent during the twelve months just before he applies for the Repairs Increase. In the County of London the statutory deduction for repairs on a house with a gross rateable value of £25 is £8, and in the provinces the statutory deduction is £7. The tenant can apply at any time to the local authority for a 'certificate of disrepair', if the house is not put and kept in good repair, and if this is issued the tenant can refuse to pay the Repairs Increase until the house is repaired.

Conditions governing the issue of grants under the Housing Act of 1949 for improvements and conversions are proposed to be eased. At present, to qualify for a grant the house has to have an estimated life of 30 years. It is proposed to shorten this period, and also to give the landlord a better return on his capital outlay by raising the present 6 per cent to 8 per cent. It is also proposed to remove the £800 limit on the cost of works under the Act,

without increasing the maximum grant now payable.

## LAW CASES

**Park Estates (Southgate) Ltd. v. Borough of Southgate.** This was an appeal before a Divisional Court of the Queen's Bench Division on 6 October in connection with private street works proposed to be carried out by the Borough of Southgate in a road in Southgate. The appeal was made by the Borough Council from a decision of Quarter Sessions that the proposed works were premature and unreasonable. The case arose under the Private Street Works Act 1892.

Houses have been erected on one side of the road and the other side is vacant land to be developed by Park Estates Ltd. so soon as planning permission has been obtained.

Quarter Sessions justices had expressed the view that the street works were premature because, when the rest of the houses were built, the road would have to be dug up and they thought that while the road which it was proposed to make would be sufficient for the existing houses, it would not be sufficient when the building was completed and that, to some extent, it would be an expense thrown away.

The Divisional Court held that the justices had power to say that the proposed works were unreasonable because they did not think they should be carried out at present. They were not saying that the works should not be done. For those reasons the justices were entitled to come to the conclusion which they did and the appeal failed.

The Borough Council was given leave to appeal to the Court of Appeal. (THE ESTATES GAZETTE, 17 October 1953.)

**London Building Act, 1930. Car Shelter in Front Garden.** Under this Act it is an offence to erect a building or structure beyond the general line of buildings in a street. In this case the L.C.C. summoned an owner for erecting in the front garden of her house a tubular steel frame covered by green canvas. It was 14 ft. long, 7 ft. 9 in. wide and 7 ft. 11 in. high, including the wheels. It was screwed to the front gate and used as a car shelter.

The point to be decided was whether what had been erected was a building or structure within the meaning of the Act.

The Magistrate said that the word 'structure' had clearly increased its general meaning in comparatively recent times, but he thought it must be something that required constructional work—work of a permanent nature—and which, in the ordinary sense of the word, was regarded as part of the building, and he was satisfied that this car shelter did not come within the Act. He thought that it was a matter which must be dealt with by fresh legislation, if it is to be dealt with at all.

In dismissing the summons and granting the owner her costs, the Magistrate said the case involved a principle and the owner was unfortunate in being chosen as the victim of a test case. (THE ESTATES GAZETTE, 7 November 1953.)



# Book Reviews

**Art and Everyman.** A basis for appreciation, by *Margaret H. Bulley*. 2 vols. 13 in. + pls. Batsford. 1951-52. £4 4s. the set.

This unusual book, despite its size, format and title, which may repel the architect, merits the attention of student and professional alike.

By comparing and contrasting fine illustrations of architecture, painting, sculpture and minor art, Miss Bulley seeks to determine the principles common to all good design, to all works of art of whatever age or style. In the present context the term 'work of art' has special significance. It is interpreted by the author as a work of lasting value or real worth, 'a work that reflects a value excellent in itself', in contradistinction to the work of 'not-art' or 'counterfeit' whose appeal is sensual and transitory. In the former category she would place, for example, Notre Dame, St. Paul's Cathedral, Picasso's 'Guernica' and, with reservations, certain work by Gropius and Neutra; in the latter such diverse subjects as Laon Cathedral, Giorgione's 'La Tempesta', the Pavillon Suisse (and for that matter most of the work of Le Corbusier and Frank Lloyd Wright). Here, indeed, is material for controversy!

Throughout this study Miss Bulley pleads for an objective approach to art, and seeks to establish reliable standards of judgment. The mind, she insists, should be freed from preconceived ideas and a work be permitted to speak for itself. It matters little to the author whether a building were designed by Brunelleschi or Breuer; always the point at issue is whether or not it is a work of art according to definition, and how much or how little it has in common with all other works of art.

The argument for the objective approach is presented in a series of telling illustrations. We see caricatured the painting that is valued highly only so long as it bears the name of a master; the object that is admired solely for its modernity or its antiquity, or for its associations; and the work that must be read about before the observer dare venture an opinion. All such criteria and methods Miss Bulley scorns, and she attempts to train the eye to recognise and the mind to respond to what she describes as 'the true mind picture', which is caught and reflected only in the true work of art.

In the pages which follow, the author broadens and deepens the reader's visual experience by illustrating objects of all kinds, the good, the indifferent and the commonplace in every sphere of artistic activity. In Volume One the reader is invited to consider the Elements of Design, Mass, Line and Space, Light, Shade and Colour; the second volume is devoted more specifically to painting and sculpture. 'There is only one teacher of art who never blunders', claims Miss Bulley, 'the true work of art itself'. And so, having selected certain 'true' works—or, as Miss Bulley

would no doubt prefer, the true works having selected themselves—all other examples may be measured by them.

This method would be sound enough provided that general agreement were possible on all points about the true works, and if there were some sure method by which the relative value of the other works could be measured. It would seem, however, that such tests must remain subjective. Miss Bulley points, for example, to qualities of 'ideal poise and motion' and 'extension in depth', terms that undoubtedly have a very real meaning to her, but which may well perplex the reader. These are terms which cannot be defined precisely. Then again Truth is an absolute, but, apparently, works of art may possess it in varying degrees; some in full measure, like a masterpiece by Rembrandt 'drawing its life from the primordial integration of the cosmic process' (Vol. 2, p. 73); others hardly at all as, for example, a work by Van Meegeren, the forger, in whom it is stated 'the reality of the man of art is made manifest, even if faintly, through the claim of a rogue and a weakling' (Vol. 2, p. 52).

When, the reader may well ask, does motion become ideal, and at what point may one draw the line between art and not-art? A step further—what is Truth? What is Reality?—and one crosses the shadowy border line between aesthetics and metaphysics where even Miss Bulley cannot guide with certainty.

In this book, then, the architect will find much to perplex, confuse and even irritate, for the text makes heavy going. But it contains much wisdom, and few people will read it without profit. The remarkable collection of pictures, the selection and arrangement of which must have taken a great deal of time and labour, must be especially commended—the reproduction in colour of Rouault's exquisite 'Véronique' is alone worth the price of the volume it graces.

P. PLACE

**Planning Applications, Appeals and Inquiries**, by *A. E. Telling and F. H. B. Layfield*. 9½ in. 406 pp. Butterworth. 1953. £1 15s.

This book deals in detail with the appropriate procedure for making applications and objections under the complicated provisions of the various Acts and regulations concerned with Town Planning Law. The word 'complicated' is probably an understatement, as, always excepting the Rent Acts, the 1947 Planning Act is one of the most difficult enactments of recent years.

Part I of the volume explains the procedure for planning inquiries, including those under the New Towns Act 1946 and the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949. Cases in which applications to the Court may be made are referred to, and the distinction between the functions of the Minister in regard to appeals is clearly explained. There are only a limited number of instances where the Court can be asked to review the Minister's decision, and where that decision is based on policy his action can only be

questioned in Parliament and not in the Court. This is the outcome of post-war legislation and in the opinion of many is to be deplored. Executive power conferred upon Ministers and local authorities by Act of Parliament, and thereby ousting the jurisdiction of the Court, does not appeal to the English mind. A study of this part of the book can be recommended to an applicant's professional adviser, as it may avoid some technical omission in procedure which would have disastrous effects. In many cases the applicant should be legally advised.

Part 2 concerns evidence in planning inquiries and has some very useful examples of the Minister's decisions in planning appeals. From these it may be possible to estimate the chances of an appeal and the evidence that is required in support. Evidence that is required in objections to a draft development plan is set out in detail and this should be of value to those who specialise in that side of town planning.

Part 3 contains an interesting chapter on 'change of use' under the 1947 Act, and includes several decisions which to some extent give a guide to the Minister's view as to what is a material change of use, which is the wording used in the Act but which is nowhere defined. As, presumably the Court's interpretation of the word cannot be obtained, it must remain in the obscurity left by our legislators.

The Appendices contain a list of circulars issued by the Minister, those marked with an asterisk being obtainable at H.M. Stationery Office. Also are included a list of Command Papers and Statutory Instruments issued up to 1 March 1953. This information is most useful.

The book deals with the law up to 1 March 1953 and is an exhaustive treatise on this most difficult subject. The authors have not hesitated to give their opinion and to deprecate the jargon used by planning experts. They truly say that some of the terms used do not mean anything and serve only as a cloak for muddled thought. Is it too much to hope that planning experts will read this most useful book and amend their vocabulary? Others who do not aspire to the rank of planning experts will no doubt add this work to their library.

C. W.

**Exeter [and nearby places]**, by *Bryan [D. G. Little]*. 8½ in. 168 pp. incl. pls. Batsford. 1953. 15s.

Exeter suffered very severely during the war; the great raid of May 1942 caused huge fires which devastated large areas in the centre of the city. It was obvious that re-planning would be necessary, and that in many respects a new Exeter would arise. Much has now been done; the form and character of the new city is beginning to reveal itself, and for this reason alone Mr. Little's book is welcome. The history of the city needed to be brought up to date and a critical analysis made of the new in relation to the old, while development is still in progress. To architects, therefore, the last chapter in the book, in which

Mr. Little gives his criticism of the new architecture that is arising, will probably be the most interesting.

Speaking of the new buildings on the north side of High Street, he refers to them as 'a sequence of buildings that will no doubt be convenient and useful, but which well epitomise the aesthetic tragedy of our times'. The tragedy, as Mr. Little sees it, is that they are 'too heavily in debt to the admittedly good Georgian architecture already in the city'; but they themselves are not Georgian, neither are they contemporary in design, and in consequence they do not make the contribution to architectural progress that might well have been hoped for. Even so, they are in advance of what many of the citizens would desire. It is surprising how often, and from what quarters, one hears the wish expressed that the new Exeter should have been an imitation of the old, with all its 'quaint' features. Therein lies the real tragedy, the lack of a common ground of taste between those who build and those for whom they build. Until this is overcome, it is unlikely that great architecture will arise.

For the rest, Mr. Little treats his subject on a broad historical basis; he has read widely and he presents the result of his researches in a way that cannot fail to appeal to all who have an interest in history. Of particular value are the chapters dealing with the towns in the vicinity of Exeter, such as Tiverton and Ottery St. Mary; their history is less well known, and Mr. Little has done a service in establishing their kinship with the county town.

Altogether an interesting and readable book, well illustrated.

H. M. R. DRURY [F]

**Schmiedeeisen und Leichtmetall am Bau**, by Wilhelm Braun-Feldweg. 11½ in. 119 pp. incl. pp. of illus. text illus. Ravensburg: Otto Maier. [1952]. DM.28.

Wrought metal working is an old-established and many-sided skill, and fifteen different ways of doing it are described in detail in this book, each one with its own subtleties and possibilities for design and expression. Almost all of these ways, except the last—welding by electricity or acetylene—are, however, not readily amenable to drawing board design.

At one time cast iron mass production took over the part that wrought iron craftsmanship had long played, but now that most of the cast iron railings and gates have been taken away for scrap we have a heavy task on our hands, lacking as we do both the skill of the pre-industrial metal workers and the unselfconscious gusto of the cast iron age designers. We are in fact left with little more than a number of crude and primitive production samples of wire fences, pseudo-baroque gates, and reinforcing-rod-cum-flat-steel railings.

Dr. Braun-Feldweg's book is more than a picture book of good and possible examples of builders' metalwork. It gives outstanding examples of each type of technique and analyses the work in each case, giving very clear sketches of how each

detail is done. Beyond that it draws a thread of continuity from the mediaeval work right up to and including Reg Butler. Such a survey leaves no loophole for the supercilious critic who despises the skills of other ages. We have added certain techniques and lost others, but we are neither more nor less imaginative, subtle, witty, honest or 'contemporary' than any of our forerunners. I do not think that Dr. Braun-Feldweg's book should lead to mere imitation of designs. The complete design of each work is in any case shown by a photograph which does not lend itself to tracing, and only the detail and technique are explained by drawings. But even if some designer, eager for new ideas, were to copy ideas 'cold' from such an exceptionally spirited collection, the result could only stimulate the jaded fancies of those who supply us with wrought or welded metal building accessories, including replacements for the scrapped gates and railings of our towns.

This beautifully produced book is a very civilised and far-reaching achievement, and one wonders how a single author can gather so much excellent information from so many countries while working from a small country town in the heart of South Germany. There was certainly nothing provincial or small-minded about his big treatise on *Metal Work* and this smaller volume is a worthy sequel, with no outlandish or parochial traits to restrict its usefulness to one country.

G. ROSENBERG [A]

**Le Corbusier. Œuvre complète 1946-1952.** W. Boesiger, ed. ob. 9 in. × 11 in. 245 pp. incl. pls. and pp. of illus. text illus. Zurich: Girsberger. 1953. £4.

The fifth volume of the *Œuvre complète* takes the story of Le Corbusier's activities a further six years. The text is trilingual—French, German, and a painstaking (but rather laboured) English, hardly adequate for conveying some of the oratorical flights of the master. There are more than seven hundred illustrations, including photographs of buildings and models, and reproductions of plans, sketches, paintings and sculpture. Possibly the most interesting pages are those devoted to Chandigarh, the new Punjab capital, which is here treated more fully than in any other publication which the writer of this note has seen. This is a typically competent production of the Verlag Girsberger. J. C. P.

**Royal Homes**, by Gordon Nares. 11 in. × 8½ in. 112 pp. incl. pls. and pp. of illus. text illus. Country Life. 1953. 18s.

The few existing general works on English royal palaces are now old or on a small scale, and this collection of articles, largely reprinted from COUNTRY LIFE issues, forms a useful conspectus of the subject; but there are no plans and less than twelve pages of text; therefore its appeal will be only popular. The three palaces in London, two beyond it, and two in Scotland are interesting specimens of what, after all, were only enlarged town and country houses of the times. Chronologically, the selection is

enlightening. From the mediaeval (though much restored) Windsor one proceeds to the early Tudor of St. James's and Tudor-to-Stuart of Holyrood, then skipping (unhappily) the Georgian age, comes upon the post-Regency Clarence House and Buckingham Palace; the unlovely Balmoral and Sandringham of the 'fifties and 'sixties conclude the patchy series. There are no running titles to inform the reader, as he scans any given opening in the book, what building is represented. The illustrations, needless to say, adequately though superficially cover the subjects, with some useful aerial views. Incidentally, the sky-line of south-west London in the frontispiece raises curious problems of identification.

**2,000 Years of England**, by John Gloag. 8½ in. xiii + 313 pp. incl. pls. text illus. Cassell. 1952. 18s.

Following the lines of the author's larger *Men and Buildings* (2nd ed. 1950), this unusual history of architecture and other arts relates them in every period to the ordinary life of the time; the first chapter, 'The Unwritten Records', postulates natural surroundings and highways as the starting-points. The survey extends from Roman to Georgian times, partly in chronological and partly in subject order. The illustrations are all line and taken from earlier sources, but fairly cover the field for the general reader. The text is chatty. There are a good bibliography and index.

H. V. M. R.

**Specification Writing for Architects and Surveyors**, by Arthur J. Willis. 9½ in. × 7½ in. 88 incl. xi. pp. Crosby Lockwood. 1953. 7s. 6d.

The author states that there are two essentials in writing a specification; (a) to know what one wants, and (b) to be able to express it clearly, so that the reader—be he builder's estimator, quantity surveyor, clerk of works, or builder's foreman—can visualise the whole building in advance, whether for the purpose of measuring its constituent parts for an estimate or of finding definite instructions for erecting the building. To achieve this the writer of a specification must not just put down in haphazard fashion the items he thinks of, but must follow a system. He must be specific in his instructions and crystal-clear and complete in his detail.

The scope of the book is limited to building work of a normal type, and it has been written and arranged so as to give the specification writer a list of the points to be dealt with in each of the main sections into which a specification can be divided; if any point does not concern the particular job in hand it can be passed over, but at least it has been brought to mind and thus the risk of any item being missed is lessened.

The book is divided into sections, corresponding in general to the sequence of trades and items as set out in B.S. 685; the main headings are set out on the left, and on the right are their sub-headings. Relevant British Standards and Codes of Practice are listed under the main headings. Thus the book is a specification in skeleton

form, to be filled out and completed as the job may require.

If there is any branch of writing in which inconsistency of phrasing is impermissible it is surely in drafting a specification, but consistency is not easy to maintain, especially if the work is not done without distraction, and the author rightly draws attention to this, quoting as examples of inconsistency the order in which dimensions are given and the description of timber sometimes by 'finished' and sometimes by 'nominal' sizes; he also shifts uneasily in his chair when certain terms are used without due thought, such as 'approved', 'best quality', and 'damp-course' instead of 'damp-proof course', and he begs that distinction be made between 'consistence' (e.g. stiffness of concrete) and 'consistency' (being consistent), though in the last case he would be ill-advised to call in the *Concise Oxford Dictionary* as a witness on his side.

The author hopes that his book may be a helpful reminder to practitioners as well as a guide to students in their aim at completeness in a specification. He may rest assured on that point: the introductory remarks on the purpose and use of the specification, its subject matter and form, coupled with the skeleton outline, make his book one that should be in every architect's office and at every student's hand.

F. W.

**Dry Rot and other Timber Troubles**, by W. P. K. Findlay. 8½ in. 267 pp. + front. text illus. Hutchinson. 1953. £1 5s.

No architect needs to be reminded of the damage caused by dry rot, but he has long required an up-to-date and absolutely authoritative reference book on this and other timber troubles, written in language intelligible to those who are not technologists: and not only the architect, of course, but anyone responsible for the maintenance of old buildings, the householder concerned about his garden fence, the boat owner, the farmer, the timber salesman, the furniture user—in short, everybody.

Here is the last word on all aspects of the subject, from recognising the symptoms of decay to the most effective methods of treating it, simply expressed by a very distinguished scientist with 25 years' experience in timber research. It would be difficult to over-estimate the value of Dr. Findlay's work.

**Canterbury Cathedral**, by Hugh Ross Williamson. Photos. by A. W. Kerr. 9 in. × 7 in. 63 pp. incl. pls. and pages of illus. endpaper plans. text illus. Country Life. 1953. 12s. 6d.

Although several series of illustrated quarto volumes on the English Cathedrals have been published since the war, Canterbury has so far appeared in only one of them; this new one appears independently. It contains the usual liberal supply of photographs, including a few unusual ones taken from a high level; there is a scholarly text, including an interesting exposition of the unsuitability of the much-broken-up

mediaeval plan for post-Reformation purposes. There is a good plan on both endpapers but no crypt plan. As usual, the monastic buildings are hardly touched upon in the text. There is no index, which, considering the distance (as often) of an illustration from the relevant text references, is unfortunate.

**Building Byelaws—Law and Practice**, by J. F. Garner and R. S. Offord. 8½ in. xix + 483 pp. Shaw & Sons. 1953. £2 5s.—Suppt. comparative notes on the 1952 and 1953 eds., etc. 8½ in. 35 pp. 1953.

The revised code of Model Bye-laws recently issued by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government has resulted in this new treatise by authors who have already written works on the law and administration of local government. It is intended for the use of those concerned with building operations and gives guidance on questions that may arise in the interpretation of the Model Bye-laws. It should be remembered, however, that the statutory bye-laws are those to be looked at in case of dispute, and one must be sure that the local

authority have adopted the language of the Model in framing their new bye-laws. It is thought, for instance, that not all local authorities will adopt 7 ft. 6 in. as the minimum height of a habitable room and will prefer 8 ft.

Part 1 of the book deals with the effect of the Public Health Act 1936 on the making of bye-laws, and the principles upon which judicial interpretation will be given. It would be interesting to know whether a one-storey building could have a habitable room partly in the roof of the building under the requirements of the Model in this connection. Part 2 quotes each bye-law with the authors' comments and with references to particular Acts and cases. An appendix contains a list of British Standards and Codes of Practice. There is also a collection of leading cases.

The authors have dealt with the subject exhaustively and have produced a book which is valuable to those practitioners who are concerned with building bye-laws and who look for guidance in what is sometimes a difficult subject.

C. W.

## Correspondence

### THE DOMESTIC WATER CLOSET

To the Editor.

SIR,—One finds it difficult to understand (apart from grounds of economy) why the official booklet *Houses 1953* should recommend that 5-person households shall have the grand luxury of a water-closet in a separate compartment, while their 4-person compatriots must suffer that unpleasant feature of 20th-century domestic architecture, the bathroom-cum-W.C. Surely this is degeneration from late-Victorian standards of 'refined hygiene'?

A famous physician once offered me the opinion that hospital architects rarely visualise themselves as patients in their carefully prepared schemes. It is suggested that many of our professional brethren are guilty of the same lapse with regard to homes, and we are accused in a somewhat similar manner as is the judge in a criminal trial *vis-à-vis* the prisoner! I put forward this plea, therefore: that all homes should enjoy a separate water-closet; nay, in times of sickness, two of these humble fixtures are a virtual necessity in every home.

The water-closet, after all, is one of the greatest inventions bringing blessing to mankind. Its invention by Harrington in the 16th century, even more than the steam-engine, has made our modern civilisation possible. Why, therefore, in our architectural thought, do we relegate it to a place far below the position of the staircase?

Yours faithfully,  
WILLIAM GILL, A.M.T.P.I. [4]

### A SPATE OF CIRCULARS

The Editor.

SIR,—May I add to the correspondence on the 'spate of circulars', by instancing my own experience? Working in tropical

Africa, I am plagued by manufacturers of central heating plant, and of many other such unsuitable materials.

Further, inconvenience is caused to others beside myself, in that my mail is forwarded by courtesy of my bank, passes through an overstrained postal service in this country, and finally reaches me by means of an overloaded mail-runner, after an arduous bicycle ride of 30 miles.

May I suggest that, among the 'spate of papers' which fall out of the JOURNAL when one opens it, a firmly worded postcard should be included asking such firms to desist and/or that you insert a warning notice in the Kalendar not to use the addresses. Alas! This expedient would not reach, nor deter, the subscription managers of American architectural magazines.

The offending firms may plead 'advertising practice', and with a generation which accepts public advertisements, vulgar or well-bred, in their appropriate places, who can blame them?

Yours faithfully,

S. E. MALINS [4]

Benue Province, Northern Nigeria.

### ORIEL CHAMBERS, LIVERPOOL

The Editor, The R.I.B.A. Journal.

DEAR SIR,—In your September issue you published passages from a letter of Professor Henry Russell Hitchcock's appropriation of his sessional paper on Sullivan and early iron architecture. In this he mentions Oriel Chambers at Liverpool and its architect Peter Ellis. It might interest your readers to know that we will shortly be publishing in THE ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW an article on Oriel Chambers and 16 Cook Street based on material collected by Geoffrey Woodward, J. N. Prendergrast, Richard Beattie and James Mount while students at Liverpool University.

Yours, etc.,

NIKOLAUS PEVSNER [HON.]



# Notes and Notices

## NOTICES

**Second General Meeting, Tuesday 8 December 1953 at 6 p.m.** The Second General Meeting of the Session 1953-54 will be held on Tuesday 8 December 1953 at 6 p.m. for the following purposes:—

To read the Minutes of the Inaugural General Meeting held on 3 November 1953; formally to admit new members attending for the first time since their election.

Mr. Siegfried Charoux, A.R.A., to read a paper on 'Building without Grace; An Aggressive Examination'.

(Light refreshments will be provided before the meeting.)

**Third General Meeting, Tuesday 5 January 1954 at 6 p.m.** The Third General Meeting of the Session 1953-54 will be held on Tuesday 5 January 1954 at 6 p.m. for the following purposes:—

To read the Minutes of the Second General Meeting held on 8 December 1953; formally to admit new members attending for the first time since their election.

To read the Council's Deed of Award of Prizes and Studentships 1954.

Mr. John Betjeman to read a paper on 'Honour your Forebears'.

(Light refreshments will be provided before the meeting.)

**Session 1953-54. Minutes I.** At the Inaugural General Meeting of the Session 1953-54, held on Tuesday 3 November 1953 at 6 p.m.

Mr. Howard Robertson, M.C., A.R.A., S.A.D.G., President, in the Chair.

The meeting was attended by about 190 members and guests.

The Minutes of the Ninth General Meeting of the Session 1952-53 held on Tuesday 23 June 1953 having been published in the JOURNAL, were taken as read, confirmed and signed as correct.

The President delivered his Inaugural Address of the Session.

On the motion of the Right Hon. Sir David Eccles, K.C.V.O., M.P., Minister of Works, seconded by Mr. George Arnold Coombe, M.C., President of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, a vote of thanks was passed to the President by acclamation, and was briefly responded to.

The President presented the R.I.B.A. London Architecture Bronze Medal and Diploma for 1952 to Messrs. Farquharson and McMorran [F/F] for the L.C.C. Open Air School at Bow Road, E.3, now named Phoenix School.

Messrs. Farquharson and McMorran briefly thanked the President and Council for the honour conferred upon them.

The President also presented the replica of the Bronze Medal to Mr. R. McKinnon Wood, O.B.E., Chairman of the L.C.C. Education Committee, representing the building owners, and he and Mr. F. C. Rowley, representing the Contractors for the building, also spoke.

The proceedings closed at 7.25 p.m.

**British Architects' Conference 1954.** At the invitation of the Devon and Cornwall Society of Architects the British Architects' Conference in 1954 will be held from 26 to 29 May at Torquay. The local Conference Committee are now engaged in drawing up the programme, details of which will be published in due course.

**Kalendar 1953-54: Corrections.** The following corrections to the 1953-54 Kalendar are published at the wish of the member and Student concerned:

Page

534 The name of Mr. Michael Louis Belchamber should not appear on this page, as he was elected an Associate on 23 June 1953 and his name appears as such on page 70 of the Kalendar.

Page

553 **Durham: Clive Hugh Henry.** The address should be: 33 Quarry Road, Headington, Oxford.

**R.I.B.A. London Architecture Bronze Medal 1953.** The attention of members is called to the form of nomination and conditions of the award, enclosed with this issue of the JOURNAL. The award will be made for a building built within the counties of London and Middlesex during the three years ending 31 December 1953. Any member of the Royal Institute may nominate any building for consideration by the jury.

Nomination forms must be returned to the Secretary, R.I.B.A., not later than 27 February 1954.

**Associates and the Fellowship.** Associates who are eligible and desirous of transferring to the Fellowship are reminded that if they wish to take advantage of the next available election they should send the necessary nomination forms to the Secretary, R.I.B.A., as soon as possible.

**Licentiate and the Fellowship.** By a resolution of the Council passed on 4 April 1938 all candidates whose work is approved are required to sit for the Examination, which is the design portion of the Special Final Examination, and no candidates will be exempted from the examination.

**Note.**—The above resolution does not affect Licentiate of over 60 years of age applying under Section IV, Clause 4(c) (ii) of the Supplemental Charter of 1925.

**Classes of Retired Members.** Under the provisions of Bye-law 15 applications may be received from those members who are eligible for transfer to the class of 'Retired Fellows', 'Retired Associates' or 'Retired Licentiates'.

The Bye-law is as follows: 'Any Fellow, Associate or Licentiate who has reached the age of 55 and has retired from practice may, subject to the approval of the Council, be transferred without election to the class of "Retired Fellows", "Retired Associates", or "Retired Licentiates", as the case may be, but in such case his interest in, or claim against the property of, the Royal Institute shall cease.

'The amount of the annual subscription payable by such "Retired Fellows", "Retired Associates" or "Retired Licentiates" shall be one guinea, or such amount as may be determined by resolution of the Council, excepting in the case of those who have paid subscriptions as full members for 30 years, and who shall be exempt from further payment. A "Retired Fellow", "Retired Associate" or "Retired Licentiate" shall have the right to use the affix of his class with the word "Retired" after it, shall be entitled to receive the JOURNAL and Kalendar, shall be entitled to the use of the Library, and shall have the right to attend General Meetings, but shall not be entitled to vote. A "Retired Fellow", "Retired Associate" or "Retired Licentiate" shall not engage in any avocation which in the opinion of the Council is inconsistent with that of architecture. Nothing contained in this Bye-law shall affect the rights of persons who at the date of the passing of this

Bye-law are members of the classes of "Retired Fellows" and "Retired Members of the Society of Architects".

**Architectural Competitions—Assessors' Awards.** All architects who take part in architectural competitions are reminded by the Council of the R.I.B.A. that participation in a competition is a definite acceptance of the principle that the award of the assessor is final and binding upon themselves as well as upon the promoters, and that any competitor who feels that he has real ground for dissatisfaction with an assessor's award should communicate with the Secretary of the R.I.B.A.

Further, all architects, whether competitors or otherwise, are reminded that discussion or correspondence in the public or professional Press which tends to criticism or disparagement of an assessor or award cannot alter the final and binding effect of the award, but may prejudice architects and the whole competition system in the opinion of the public, and is therefore highly undesirable.

**Correspondence with the Institute.** In order to facilitate speedier attention to correspondence, and to relieve the staff of a great deal of research, it is particularly requested that members and Students will kindly state in all correspondence with the Institute the class of membership (F, A, L or Student) to which they belong.

**Disciplinary Action.** Mr. Arthur Lawrence Crookall, of Whitegate, Holdenby, Northants, an Associate, was reprimanded by decree of the Council dated 13 October 1953, made pursuant to the Bye-laws.

## BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION

**R.I.B.A. Examination for the Office of Building Surveyor under Local Authorities.** At the R.I.B.A. Examination for the Office of Building Surveyor under Local Authorities held on 7, 8 and 9 October 1953, sixteen candidates presented themselves and the following were successful: Ernest R. Bingle, Patrick S. Forder, Frank C. Newby, Henry L. Stephenson, Herbert F. Turner.

**R.I.B.A. Examination in Professional Practice and Practical Experience.** The Examination in Professional Practice and Practical Experience was held in London and Edinburgh on 2 and 3 November 1953. Of the 245 candidates examined, 214 passed and 31 were relegated. The successful candidates are as follows:—

Ackerman: S. F. W.	Bond: G. A.
Adamson: R. G.	Bonwick: Henry
Almond: G. C.	Borwick: Mary (Miss)
Aston: S. R.	Bovingdon: L. R.
Ayshford: A. G.	Bowdon: Robert
Back: L. E.	Bowen: A. A. B.
Bacon: M. J.	Bowes: D. W.
Bailey: James	Brown: N. A.
Baker: G. D.	Buck: J. A.
Baker: M. M. (Miss)	Burnhill: C. S.
Banting: Peter	Burrows: J. N.
Barnes: C. S.	Buttall: A. F.
Bayley: A. C.	Buxton: Leslie
Bentley: Harry	Bynoe: P. C. A.
Berresford: I. G.	Cannon: G. L.
Berry: C. I.	Cawte: J. F. W.
Birchall: R. J.	Chapman: M. A.
Birtles: Patricia (Mrs.)	Chard: A. R.
Blakely: S. A.	Chellis: R. V.
Bloomfield: A. J.	Claridge: R. J.

Clark: Donald  
 Clark: D. J.  
 Coakham: G. D. G.  
 Cochrane: T. J.  
 Cole: J. A.  
 Collins: G. J.  
 Cook: W. H.  
 Cooke: G. F.  
 Coombe: A. A.  
 Cornfield: D. G.  
 Cox: W. A. A.  
 Crawforth: William  
 Cronin: D. W.  
 Daniel: P. G.  
 Darlington: Edgar  
 Davies: W. H.  
 Davis: I. T. M.  
 Devlin: Terence  
 Diamantis: N. T.  
 Diaz: Amador  
 Digby: J. L. S.  
 Dixon: H. R. M.  
 Doshi: B. V.  
 Duek-Cohen: Elias  
 Dunnington: C. W.  
 Eeles: I. J. N.  
 Fagg: A. J.  
 Fenwick: Colin  
 Fiske: T. N.  
 Fletcher: M. C. J.  
 (Mrs.)  
 Ford: F. H.  
 Francis: H. E. S.  
 Gadd: F. J.  
 Geall: R. G.  
 Geary: T. M.  
 Gibbs: K. H.  
 Gledhill: J. M.  
 Godfrey: R. M.  
 Goodchild: J. S. J.  
 Gotch: C. L.  
 Greene: R. S.  
 Gulwell: Wallace  
 Gunzburg: Anna  
 (Mrs.)  
 Hall: C. F.  
 Hall: G. A.  
 Hall: I. B.  
 Hall: Lois B. (Mrs.)  
 Hardy: F. C.  
 Harlow: K. E. M.  
 Harries: J. J.  
 Hartley: Brian  
 Hay: G. D.  
 Head: D. d'E.  
 Henderson: T. A.  
 Hendon: D. O.  
 Henness: C. J.  
 Higgs: K. G.  
 Hill: T. C.  
 Holmes-Siedle: I. C. N.  
 Hubbard: V. A. St. A.  
 Hudson: Gene (Miss)  
 Hunter: Leslie  
 Hutchings: V. J.  
 Iden: C. F.  
 Inskip: J. A.  
 Irvine: Paul  
 Jamieson: V. C.  
 Jamieson: W. B. R.  
 Jefferies: P. M. (Miss)  
 Jenkins: Denzil  
 Johnson: C. A. H.  
 Johnstone: P. J. (Miss)  
 Jones: D. E. G. (Miss)  
 Joyce: D. G.  
 Keen: Russell  
 Kew: G. W.  
 Kilner: Allen  
 King: R. R. P.  
 Knight: A. J.  
 Kohler: M. W.  
 Legerton: O. W.  
 Leigh: John

Lenon: J. A. (Mrs.)  
 Lewis: V. M. (Miss)  
 Lister: A. G.  
 Little: C. L.  
 Lloyd: D. C.  
 Lord-Smith: P. J.  
 Lucas: R. P.  
 Lyster: C. B.  
 McHenry: P. A. L.  
 McLeod: D. A. G.  
 McMillan-Scott:  
 W. T. R.  
 Margerrison: Ronald  
 Marsden: J. W.  
 Marston: Marilyn  
 (Miss)  
 Mather: John  
 Maynard: P. L.  
 Meek: J. E.  
 Melhuish: R. E.  
 Meyer: Alfred  
 Miles: P. L.  
 Millar: S. T.  
 Miller: Frank  
 Mitchell: R. F.  
 Mould: R. F.  
 Mount: J. S.  
 Mudd: B. A.  
 Newman: D. S.  
 Niblock: John  
 Nicholls: R. L.  
 Olive: Dan  
 O'Rourke: John  
 Owen: R. H.  
 Peers: Kenneth  
 Pickford: S. G.  
 Pollock: D. M.  
 Poniatowski: Antoni  
 Powell: K. R.  
 Prendergrast: J. N.  
 Pryer: R. J.  
 Read: J. J.  
 Reid: D. A.  
 Roberts: C. F.  
 Roberts: G. E.  
 Rosser: R. E.  
 Rothwell: K. A.  
 Sawtell: D. L.  
 Schofield: F. B.  
 Schwerdt: J. R.  
 Seaman: B. J.  
 Sears: R. W.  
 Sewall: A. F.  
 Shoolbred: A. H.  
 Siedlecki: K.  
 Silverton: D. N.  
 Smith: Arthur W.  
 Stables: J. M.  
 Stepan: Ryszard  
 Stephens: F. W.  
 Stephenson: Robert  
 Straker: E. A.  
 Surridge: C. E. (Miss)  
 Swallow: R. W.  
 Swift: Arthur  
 Taylor: E. G. C.  
 Tempest: J. F.  
 Tomlinson: G. K. V.  
 Tree: Reginald  
 Turner: P. G.  
 Vardy: R. R.  
 Venables: E. L.  
 Vickers: K. H.  
 Walton: M. J.  
 Ward: J. E.  
 Ware: J. A.  
 Warren: A. P.  
 Watrach: K.  
 Watts: J. A.  
 Wells-Thorpe: J. A.  
 Westmacott: R. S.  
 Wheeler: A. J.  
 Whitfield: C. G.

Wilcox: J. H.  
 Williams: P. E.  
 Williams: S. D. L.  
 Willoughby-Thomas:  
 M. B.  
 Wood: K. B.

Woodhams: Leonard  
 Woods: D. A.  
 Woollenden: Brian  
 Worden: W. D.  
 Wright: Alec  
 Wyatt: R. J.

## COMPETITIONS

**Church at Sighthill, Edinburgh.** The Church of Scotland Home Board invites architects resident in Scotland to submit designs in competition for a church and ancillary buildings for a site at Sighthill, Edinburgh.

Assessors: Professor Robert H. Matthew, C.B.E. [A], Harry Taylor [A], Architect to the Church of Scotland Home Board; The Rev. Professor J. G. Riddell, D.D., Convenor of the Church of Scotland National Church Extension Committee.

Premiums: £750, £450, £300, £200, £100.  
 Last day for submitting designs: 30 January 1954.

Conditions may be obtained on application to the Rev. Ivan F. Tibbs, M.A., The Church of Scotland Offices, 232 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow, C.2. Deposit: £2 2s.

## ALLIED SOCIETIES

### Changes of Officers and Addresses

**Devon and Cornwall Society of Architects.** *Exeter Branch:* Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Victor Uren [A], 2 Marlborough Road, Exeter.

**Hampshire and Isle of Wight Architectural Association.** Temporary Hon. Secretary (during the illness of Mr. J. S. Fowler), H. G. Hayter [L], 140 Lodge Road, Southampton.

**Nottingham, Derby and Lincoln Society of Architects. Annual Dinner.** The annual dinner of the Nottingham, Derby and Lincoln Architectural Society was held on Friday 6 November at the Victoria Station Hotel, Nottingham. The Loyal Toast and the toast of the cities of Nottingham, Derby and Lincoln were proposed by Mr. F. H. Crossley [F], President of the Society, and this toast was replied to by the Sheriff of Nottingham, the Mayor of Derby and the Deputy Mayor of Lincoln. The toast of the R.I.B.A. and Allied Societies was proposed by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Derby and replied to by Mr. S. Rowland Pierce [F], Vice-President R.I.B.A., deputising for the President, who was unable to attend. Mr. Pierce presented the R.I.B.A. Architecture Bronze Medal and Diploma for the area of the Nottingham, Derby and Lincoln Society of Architects to Mr. Cecil Howitt, who received it on behalf of Cecil Howitt and Partners for the new generating station at Staythorpe. Mr. Pierce also presented a replica of the medal to Mr. L. F. Jeffrey, representing the British Electricity Authority. Mr. Howitt and Mr. Jeffrey briefly acknowledged the award. Mr. J. F. Pye [L], Vice-President of the North Lincolnshire Branch of the Society, then proposed the toast of 'The Guests' and Mr. Charles Atkey, President of the Nottingham Chamber of Commerce, and Mr. T. J. Owen, Town Clerk of Nottingham, replied. Mr. C. D. Spragg, Secretary R.I.B.A., accompanied Mr. Pierce.

**Devon and Cornwall Society of Architects' Annual Banquet and Ball.** The annual banquet and ball of the Devon and Cornwall Society of Architects was held on Friday 23 October at the Imperial Hotel, Torquay. In all, 134

members and their guests attended, among the principal guests being: Mr. Howard Robertson, M.C., A.R.A., S.A.D.G., President R.I.B.A., and Mrs. Robertson; the Mayor and Mayoress of Torquay, the Mayor and Mayoress of Exeter and the Sheriff of Exeter and his wife; the Deputy Lord Mayor and Deputy Lady Mayoress of Plymouth; the Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress of Truro; and the Chairman of the Devon and Cornwall Branch of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

After Mr. E. Narracott [F], President of the Devon and Cornwall Society, had proposed the Loyal Toasts, the Mayor of Exeter proposed the toast of the R.I.B.A. He said that never before had architects played such an important part in the country's welfare. Mr. Howard Robertson, President R.I.B.A., responding said he thought it was up to architects to provide more cheerful colours and more variety.

The Chairman of the Devon and Cornwall Branch of the R.I.C.S., Mr. H. B. Kauntze, then proposed the toast of the Devon and Cornwall Society, and Mr. Narracott, President, responded. The toast of the guests was proposed by Mr. Vyvyan Salisbury [F], President Elect of the Society, and the Mayor of Torquay responded.

**Northamptonshire, Bedfordshire and Huntingdonshire Association of Architects: Annual Dinner and Dance.** The annual dinner and dance of the Northamptonshire, Bedfordshire and Huntingdonshire Association of Architects was held at Franklins Gardens Hotel, Northampton, on 12 October 1953, after being postponed from 26 March owing to the death of H.M. Queen Mary. The chair was taken by Mr. P. G. Copson [L], Past President of the Society.

The Loyal Toast was proposed by Mr. K. A. Milner [L], President of the Allied Society, and that of the guests by Mr. A. N. Harris [F], Northamptonshire County Architect, and the responses were by the Mayor of Northampton and Mrs. J. Alan Turner. The guests included Mr. Howard Robertson, M.C., A.R.A., S.A.D.G., President R.I.B.A., and Mr. Robertson, the Mayoress of Northampton, the Clerks to the Northamptonshire and Bedfordshire County Councils, and the President of the Northants Branch of the National Federation of Building Trades Employers.

The main toast of the evening, that of the R.I.B.A. and the Allied Societies, was proposed by Sir Gyles Isham, Bart., Deputy Lieutenant of the County of Northamptonshire, and the responses were by Mr. Howard Robertson, M.C., A.R.A., S.A.D.G., President R.I.B.A. and Mr. P. G. Copson on behalf of the Allied Society. Sir Gyles regretted the decay of many old buildings and urged greater vigilance in preserving the beauty of the past. Mr. Howard Robertson said his particular concern was with the future of architecture. He referred to a recent statement by Mr. Ernest Marples, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, that we must look to the architect to reduce the cost of building, and said the cost of building did not lie with the architect. Freedom from controls and the resulting competition would provide the remedy. Mr. Copson said he hoped the legislators would make sure that some use was made of old buildings. There would be no great resurgence in building until restrictions were lifted. There were many talented architects waiting to express their art.

During the evening a silver salver was presented to Mr. Copson on behalf of the members, for his valuable services over a period of ten years as Honorary Secretary of the Allied Society.

After dinner there was dancing.

## GENERAL NOTES

**Leverhulme Research Fellowships 1954.** Application is invited for Leverhulme Fellowships and Grants in aid of research. The Fellowships and Grants are intended for senior workers who are prevented by routine duties or pressure of other work from carrying out research. They are limited to British-born subjects normally resident in the United Kingdom. In exceptional circumstances the Trustees may waive the condition as to residence.

The Trustees are also prepared to consider applications from groups of workers engaged upon co-operative programmes of research, particularly from those engaged upon long-distance programmes.

The duration of the awards will not normally extend over more than two years or less than three months and the amount will depend on the nature of the research and the circumstances of the applicant.

Forms of application may be obtained from the Secretary, Miss M. Branney, Leverhulme Research Fellowships, 3/5 Salisbury Square, London, E.C.4, telephone: CITY 1910. Applications must be received on or before 31 December 1953. Awards will be announced in May and will date from 1 September 1954.

**R.I.B.A. Golfing Society.** A team of seven visited Bath at the invitation of the Wessex Federal Society of Architects and played a match on Saturday 17 October at the Bath

Golf Club. The result of the match, which was played off handicap, was:—

R.I.B.A.		WESSEX	
E. H. Firmin	½	E. H. Knight	½
W. R. F. Fisher	0	B. Ivor Day	1
Sir Giles Gilbert			
Scott	1	P. K. Pope	0
Walter W. Fisk	1	B. Hayward	0
H. St. John			
Harrison	1	Eric Cole	0
C. Townsend	1	M. G. Gorton	0
J. Emberton	0	G. P. F. Ruxton	1
	4½		2½

The weather was excellent and the week-end was not entirely devoted to golf—members took the opportunity of admiring the well-known buildings under floodlighting. On Sunday afternoon a visit was paid to the Roman Baths.

It was resolved to hold a meeting at a well-known London course next spring, where the Society would return the excellent hospitality of the Wessex and Liverpool Societies.

The Gloucestershire Architectural Association is anxious to contact any of its members who play golf, with a view to arranging some golf fixtures. Will any members interested please inform the Secretary, Gloucestershire Architectural Association, 1 North Place, Cheltenham.

## Notes from the Minutes of the Council

### MEETING HELD 13 OCTOBER 1953

**1. Appointments of R.I.B.A. Representatives on:**  
(a) *Central Panels Committee, C.P.R.E.* Mr. John L. Denman [F], Mr. A. W. Kenyon [F], Mr. C. W. C. Needham [F], Mr. Stanley C. Ramsey [F] and Mr. A. L. Roberts [F]—reappointed. (b) *British School of Archaeology at Athens.* Mr. Martin S. Briggs [F] in place of the late Mr. Henry M. Fletcher [F]. (c) *Women's Advisory Council on Solid Fuel.* Miss Evelyn Drury [A]—reappointed. (d) *General Certificate of Education Joint Examinations Board: Examining Body for Technical Studies.* Mr. J. Kenneth Hicks [F]. (e) *Ancient Monuments Board for England.* Mr. Martin S. Briggs [F] in place of the late Sir Banister Fletcher [F]. (f) *National Plumbing Trades Apprenticeship Council.* Mr. W. A. Gutteridge [F]—reappointed. (g) *Wolverhampton and Stafford Technical College Building and Civil Engineering Advisory Committee.* Mr. Bertram Butler [F] and Mr. S. P. Hayward [L]—reappointed. (h) *R.I.B.A. Architecture Bronze Medal: Wessex Federal Society of Architects: Jury to consider Award.* Mr. David Booth [F], President, Berks, Bucks and Oxon Architectural Association. (i) *B.S.I. Committee M/40: School Furniture.* Mr. Oliver Cox [A] and Mr. G. Newell [A]. (j) *B.S.I. Committee CEB/11: Glossary of Terms for Concrete and Reinforced Concrete.* Mr. F. H. Heaven [A]. (k) *Conference to consider Proposal for a Standard for Clay Lath for Plastering.* Mr. D. W. Aldred [F] and Mr. Sydney Howard [L].

**2. The Honorary Corresponding Membership.** The Secretary reported that Señor Leopoldo Artucio had accepted the Council's nomination for election as an Honorary Corresponding Member for Uruguay.

**3. R.I.B.A. Architecture Bronze Medal: Nottingham, Derby and Lincoln Society of Architects.** The Secretary reported that the jury

entrusted with making an award for the three-year period ended 31 December 1952 had made the award in favour of the new Generating Station for the British Electricity Authority at Staythorpe, Notts, designed by Messrs. Cecil Howitt and Partners [F/A/A]. (T. Cecil Howitt [F], Philip Gerrard [A] and F. E. Woolley [A]). The Council gave formal approval to this award.

**4. Royal Society of Arts: Bicentenary Celebrations: 22 March 1954.** The Secretary reported that the President had been invited to attend the Bicentenary Meeting of the Royal Society of Arts on 22 March 1954. H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh would take the chair at the meeting and addresses of congratulation were to be presented. It was agreed to prepare an address of congratulation from the R.I.B.A.

**5. Rules of Allied Societies.** Approval was given to amendments to the rules of the South Eastern Society of Architects and to newly drafted rules for the Uganda Chapter, East Africa Institute of Architects.

**6. R.I.B.A. Dinner, 1954.** It was agreed to hold a dinner at Grosvenor House on 19 February 1954. It was left to a sub-committee to go into detailed arrangements.

**7. Completion of Premises Fund.** The Secretary reported that a donation of ten guineas towards the Completion of Premises Fund had been received from the County Architects' Society. The Council expressed their appreciation.

**8. Building Research Programme, 1954.** The Secretary reported that the Royal Institute had been asked to comment on the Government's proposed programme of building research for 1954 and to submit any observations by the middle of October. The Science Committee had considered the proposed programme and it was agreed to submit certain comments made by the Science Committee.

**9. Fire Protection of Buildings of Architectural and Historic Importance.** Approval was given to the action taken by the Science Committee, in collaboration with the Fire Protection Association and other interested bodies, in formulating recommended measures for fire protection in buildings of architectural and historic importance. Two documents are being prepared, one taking the form of a schedule of specifications and precautions to be taken by contractors when working on such buildings, and the second that of guidance to owners of important buildings.

**10. Nuffield Foundation: Proposed Division for Architectural Studies.** The Council were informed by the Nuffield Foundation of their intention to undertake research on the design and construction of scientific laboratories and to consider similar work on agricultural buildings. It was agreed that the Royal Institute would be willing to collaborate in the proposed work.

**11. The late Sir Banister Fletcher [F]: Bequest to the R.I.B.A.** The Secretary reported that under the will of the late Sir Banister Fletcher [F] a number of bequests had been made to the Royal Institute, including books from his library and a number of personal mementoes. Financial provision had also been made for the Sir Banister Fletcher Essay Prize and for an annual prize for the student obtaining the highest marks in the R.I.B.A. Intermediate Examination. A further bequest was likely to be available, subject to the settlement of certain conditions and to the winding up of the estate.

**12. Membership.** The following members were elected: as Honorary Corresponding Members 2; as Fellows 13; as Associates 198.

**13. Students.** 105 Probationers were elected as Students.

**14. Applications for Election.** Applications for election were approved as follows:—

*Election 8 December 1953:* as Honorary Corresponding Member 1; as Fellows 14; as Associates 118; as Licentiate 7.

*Election 2 February 1954 (Overseas Candidates):* as Fellows 2; as Associates 24.

**15. Applications for Reinstatement.** The following applications were approved: as Fellow, Charles Henry Gage; as Associates, Robert Gorrard Forbes, Travers Pickmere; as Licentiate, Reginald James Evans.

**16. Resignations.** The following resignations were accepted with regret: William Arthur Ford [F], Leolin Charles Gregory [A], James Allen Frew [Retd. A], Alfred Stanley Phipps [L], Geoffrey Paulson Townsend [L].

**17. Applications for Transfer to Retired Members' Class under Bye-law 15.** The following applications were approved: as Retired Fellows, Ernest Bates, George Crossley, Charles Henry Gage, Donald Cameron Rae.

**18. Obituary.** The Secretary reported with regret the death of the following members: Henry William Allardye [F], Charles Frederick Blythin [F], Lieut.-Colonel Claude Michael Boys-Hinderer, M.C. [F], Robert Gibson Clark [F], Hylton Theodore Shirley D'Alwis, M.B.E. [F], Sir Banister (Flight) Fletcher, D.Lit.(Lond.), M.Arch.(N.U.I.), F.S.A. [F], Henry Martineau Fletcher, M.A. [F], John Theodore Waterman Greenidge [F], John Oliver Brook Hitch [F], William Meek Page [F], Noel Lees Reece [F], Arthur Rome [F], Habib Jussabhooy Alladinbhooy Somjee [F], Alfred John Thraves [F], Frederick White [F], Geoffrey Hyde Williams, M.C. [F], Ernest



Hollyer Evans [Retd. F], Sydney Jupp [Retd. F], Paul Phipps [Retd. F], Sir Arnold Thornely [Retd. F], Francis James Watson-Hart [Retd. F], Christopher William Frederick Wheeler [Retd. F], Wallace Wood [Retd. F], Arthur Bracewell [A], Arthur Alfred Carder [A], Robert Cecil Davis [A], Frank Donaldson [A], Stanley James Hands [A], Ernest Reginald Horsburgh [A], Basil Maxwell Peake [A], Arthur George Reeves [A], James Wilfred Rough [A], Thomas Andrew Sanders [A], David Barnard Smith [A], Victor Evans Bosher [Retd. A], Herbert Jeffrey Palmer [Retd. A], Robert Alexander Reid [Retd. A], Hayward Lewis Samson, M.B.E. [Retd. A], William Soye Backhouse [L], Cyril Robins Crumpton [L], Alfred Knewstubb [L], John Gilbert Pitney Meaden [L], Clement Bernard Ridgeway [L], Frederick George Yorath [L], Charles Henry Kempthorne [Retd. L], George Christie Morton [Retd. L], George Henry Treacher [Retd. L]. By resolution of the Council the sympathy and condolences of the Royal Institute have been conveyed to their relatives.

### MEETING HELD 3 NOVEMBER 1953

**1. Sessional Papers.** The Secretary reported that Professor Charles Madge would not after all be able to give his paper on 'Sociology and Architecture' on 2 March 1954. It was agreed to consider an alternative subject and speaker.

**2. R.I.B.A. Dinner.** As already approved, the R.I.B.A. Dinner will be held at Grosvenor House on Friday 19 February 1954. It was agreed that the time should be 7.0 p.m. for 7.30 p.m., that the price of the tickets should be 32s. 6d. each, exclusive of wines, cigars, etc., and that dress should be evening dress with orders and decorations, or uniform, if desired, for those entitled to wear it.

**3. R.I.B.A. Reception.** In view of the date of the Annual Dinner in February and of the British Architects' Conference in May, it was agreed that there should be no R.I.B.A. Reception in 1954.

**4. Exhibitions.** On the recommendation of the Public Relations Committee, it was agreed that an exhibition on Fire Prevention, arranged by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, should be shown at the R.I.B.A. during February 1954. It was also agreed to show an exhibition on the Rebuilding of

Warsaw, offered by the Polish Cultural Institute, for a period in the late spring of 1954.

**5. Council for Codes of Practice for Buildings: Future Organisation.** A draft plan for the future organisation of the Council for Codes of Practice for Buildings, submitted by the British Standards Institution, was considered. The plan provides for the administrative responsibility to be assumed by the British Standards Institution and for the Codes of Practice Council to continue to be responsible for Codes of Practice Committees and for all drafting work, while being integrated into the organisation of the B.S.I. immediately subordinate to the General Council of the B.S.I. It was agreed to approve the proposed organisation on the understanding that the Codes of Practice Council and its Committees retain a wide measure of autonomy in the work of drafting codes of practice.

**6. Membership.** The following members were elected: as Associates—19.

**7. Students.** Forty-five Probationers were elected as Students.

**8. Applications for Election.** Applications for election were approved as follows: *Election 5 January 1954*; as Fellows 10, as Associates 48, as Licentiates 5. *Election 2 March 1954 (Overseas Candidates)*; as Fellows 3, as Associates 14.

**9. Applications for Reinstatement.** The following applications were approved: as Associates—Mrs. Maureen Millett, Joseph Derek Whitehouse.

**10. Applications for Transfer to Retired Members' Class under Bye-law 15.** The following applications were approved: as Retired Associate—Travers Pickmere; as Retired Licentiates—Reginald James Evans, William Kennedy.

**11. Obituary.** The Secretary reported with regret the death of the following members: Sir Muirhead Bone, LL.D., D.Litt. [Hon. A], John Percy Clark [F], James Alfred Cope-Christie, O.B.E. [F], Edgar Farrar [F], Anthony Charles Tripe [F], Alan James Brandt [A], Stuart Curphey Lawson [L], Reginald Victor Walker [L].

By resolution of the Council the sympathy and condolences of the Royal Institute have been conveyed to their relatives.

McCoy: Edward John, Dunedin, New Zealand.  
McLoughlin: Dudley Raymond, Johannesburg, S. Africa.

Peeps: John Calder, B.Arch. (Dunelm), Vancouver, B.C., Canada.

Pigott: Barry Clifford, B.Arch. (C.T.), Port Elizabeth, S. Africa.

Pipe: Edward Charles, Rotorua, New Zealand.

Saffer: Terence Edward, B.Arch. (Rand), Johannesburg, S. Africa.

Visser: Paulus, B.Arch. (Rand), Bloemfontein, S. Africa.

Webb: Bernard Wallace, Nairobi, Kenya.

Webster: Donald McDonald, D.A. (Edin.), Ibadan, Nigeria.

Young: Allan Bruce, Auckland, New Zealand.

### ELECTION: 5 JANUARY 1954

An election of candidates for membership will take place on 5 January 1954. The names and addresses of the candidates with the names of their proposers, found by the Council to be eligible and qualified in accordance with the Charter and Bye-laws, are herewith published for the information of members. Notice of any objection or any other communication

respecting them must be sent to the Secretary, R.I.B.A., not later than Monday 7 December 1953.

The names following the applicant's address are those of his proposers.

### AS FELLOWS (10)

Cassidy: George Edward, B.A.(Arch.) (Lond.) [A 1936], c/o Edward Maufe, Esq., R.A., 139 Old Church Street, S.W.3; 61 Kew Green, Kew, Richmond, Surrey. Edward Maufe, Prof. A. E. Richardson, E. V. Harris.

Corbett: George Uvedale Spencer, Ph.D. (Cantab.), F.S.A. [A 1938], The British School at Rome, 1 Lowther Gardens, S.W.7; Fairwinds, Kingswear, Devon. W. P. Dyson, Peter Bicknell, H. C. Hughes.

Honeywell: Frederick William, Dip. Arch. (Cardiff) [A 1931], Messrs. W. and M. Given, 1 Waterside, Coleraine, Co. Londonderry. 3 Richmond Street, Londonderry; 75 Strand Road, Coleraine. Walter Rosser, R. H. Winde and applying for nomination by the Council under Bye-law 3(d).

Medlycott: Anthony [A 1936], 14 Hollydale Drive, Bromley, Kent. A. G. Nisbet, Paul Nightingale, Terence Carr.

Norcliffe: Arthur James [A 1923], 90/98 Edgeware Road, W.2; 88 Hillfield Court, Belsize Avenue, Hampstead, N.W.3. Prof. Sir William Holford, F. R. S. Yorke, C. J. Epril.

North: Edwin Samuel, A.A. Dipl. [A 1928], Norfolk House, Station Road, Chesham, Bucks. One Gable, Woodside Road, Beaconsfield. L. C. Powell, Alex Thorpe and applying for nomination by the Council under Bye-law 3(d).

Oak: George William, A.M.T.P.I. [A 1938], Education Office, Stracey Road, Norwich. 48 Plumstead Road East, Thorpe-next-Norwich. R. O. Bond, E. W. B. Scott, C. J. Tomkins.

Roberts: David Wyn, M.A. (Cantab.), Dip. Arch. (Cardiff) (Soane Medallist 1936) [A 1935], 1 Scroope Terrace, Cambridge; 11 Wilberforce Road, Cambridge. Peter Bicknell, H. C. Hughes, W. P. Dyson.

Smith: Ewart Trist Ashley [A 1935], Deputy County Architect, County Hall, Preston, Lancs. Walthams, Valley Road, Penwortham, near Preston. Harold Conolly, G. N. Hill, A. T. Nicholson.

And the following Licentiate who is qualified under Section IV, Clause 4(c) (ii) of the Supplemental Charter of 1925:

Richards: Archibald Ivor, 14 Sackville Street, W.1; 1 The Drive, Rickmansworth, Herts. Douglas Wood, D. O. H. Davies, H. G. Coulter.

### AS ASSOCIATES (48)

The name of a school, or schools after a candidate's name indicates the passing of a recognised course.

Abbott: Keith Lewis, Dipl. Arch. (U.C.L.) (Bartlett Sch. of Arch.: Univ. of London). Post Office, Stanford-le-Hope, Essex. Prof. H. O. Corfiato, R. C. White-Cooper, Thomas Ritchie.

Abel: Anthony William Grant, Dipl. Arch. (Northern Polytechnic) (Northern Poly. (London): Dept. of Arch.), 154 Poverest Road, Petts Wood, Kent. T. E. Scott, A. H. Ley, H. Colbeck.

Allen: Andrew Keith, A.A. Dipl. (Arch. Assoc. (London): Sch. of Arch.), Little Orchard, Uxbridge Road, Pinner Green, Middlesex. R. F. Jordan, Henry Elder, Arthur Korn.

Allen: Eric Alfred, Dipl. Arch. (Northern Polytechnic) (Northern Poly. (London): Dept. of Arch.), 5 Brendon Way, Bush Hill Park.

## Membership Lists

### ELECTION: 3 NOVEMBER 1953

The following candidates for membership were elected on 3 November 1953.

#### AS ASSOCIATES (19)

Bacon: Kenneth William Charles, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

Brignall: Alan Edmund, Kitwe, Northern Rhodesia.

Chambers: Alan, Dipl. Arch. (L'pool.), Lagos, Nigeria.

De Kock: Arend Josias, B.Arch. (Pretoria), Pretoria, S. Africa.

Greenberg: Charles Bernard, B.Arch. (Manitoba), Vancouver, B.C., Canada.

Grundy: (Miss) Elizabeth Jean, Dipl. Arch. (Oxford), Nairobi, Kenya.

Ioannides: Xenophon, B.Sc. (Glas.), Nicosia, Cyprus.

Lemco: (Miss) Blanche, B.Arch. (McGill), M.C.P. (Harvard), Montreal, P.Q., Canada.

Lewis: David Hanna, B.Arch. (L'pool.), Nairobi, Kenya.

Enfield, Middlesex. T. E. Scott, Howard Robertson, F. L. Preston.

**Andrzejczak: Tadeusz** [Final], 363N New Cross Road, S.E.14. Dr. J. L. Martin, Edwin Williams, A. E. Miller.

**Baxter: John William**, Dip.Arch. (Dunelm) (King's Coll. (Univ. of Durham), Newcastle upon Tyne, Sch. of Arch.), 36 Beatrice Road, Heaton, Newcastle upon Tyne. Prof. W. B. Edwards, J. H. Napper, R. Mauchlen.

**Bozeat: Frederick Ralph**, B.A.(Arch.) (Lond.) (Bartlett Sch. of Arch.: Univ. of London), 23 Hartswood Road, W.12. Prof. H. O. Corfiato, R. C. White-Cooper, S. Hyde.

**Brady: Hugh Rochfort**, B.A.(Arch.) (Lond.) (Bartlett Sch. of Arch.: Univ. of London), Scotforth, Florence Road, Bray, Co. Wicklow, Ireland. Prof. H. O. Corfiato, S. Hyde, Alister MacDonald.

**Buzuk: George Peter** [Final], 86 Norfolk House Road, S.W.16. Prof. Basil Ward, C. S. White, K. D. P. Murray.

**Carpenter: William**, Dip.Arch. (Northern Polytechnic) (Northern Poly. (London): Dept. of Arch.), White House, Levington, Ipswich, Suffolk. T. E. Scott, S. F. Burley, H. Bramhill.

**Cattrell: John Richard**, Dip.Arch. (Dunelm) (King's Coll. (Univ. of Durham), Newcastle upon Tyne, Sch. of Arch.), 97 Corporation Road, Workington, Cumberland. Prof. W. B. Edwards, Prof. J. S. Allen, J. H. Napper.

**Clough: William Basil**, Dip.Arch. (Dunelm) (King's Coll. (Univ. of Durham), Newcastle upon Tyne, Sch. of Arch.), 69 Jesmond Park West, Newcastle upon Tyne. 7. Prof. W. B. Edwards, J. H. Napper, W. W. Tasker.

**Dean: Kenneth Troughton** (Arch. Assoc. (London): Sch. of Arch.), Royal Hospital, Chelsea, S.W.3. R. F. Jordan, V. O. Rees, Arthur Korn.

**Dempsey: Rex Colin Michael**, B.Arch. (Dunelm) (King's Coll. (Univ. of Durham), Newcastle upon Tyne, Sch. of Arch.), 18 Holystone Drive, Shiremoor, Northumberland. Prof. W. B. Edwards, J. H. Napper, C. A. Harding.

**Frèhé: John**, B.Arch. (Dunelm) (King's Coll. (Univ. of Durham), Newcastle upon Tyne, Sch. of Arch.), Winston, School Road, Onchan, Isle of Man. Prof. W. B. Edwards, C. H. Aslin, J. H. Napper.

**Frimpong: John Samuel**, Dip.Arch. (U.C.L.) (Bartlett Sch. of Arch.: Univ. of London), 15 Courtfield Road, S.W.7. Prof. H. O. Corfiato, Thomas Ritchie, S. L. Thomson.

**Gladstone: John Nigel Robin** (Arch. Assoc. (London): Sch. of Arch.), 69 Oakley Street, Chelsea, S.W.3. R. F. Jordan, V. O. Rees, Arthur Korn.

**Gooderson: Colin George** (Arch. Assoc. (London): Sch. of Arch.), 1 Cheyne Court, High Street, Ruislip, Middlesex. Arthur Korn, A. R. F. Anderson, E. Forster.

**Gordon: James, D.A.** (Glas.) (Glasgow Sch. of Arch.), 17 Marwick Street, Dennistoun, Glasgow. L. H. Ross, Prof. W. J. Smith, N. R. J. Johnston.

**Hamilton: Paul Albert** (Arch. Assoc. (London): Sch. of Arch.), 39 Redcliffe Road, S.W.10. R. F. Jordan, Henry Elder, Arthur Korn.

**Head: Roy Leonard** [Final], 158 Varsity Road, Tottenham, N.15. D. W. Aldred, Miss J. E. Townsend, R. W. H. Jones.

**Higgins: Donald Sydney James** (Northern Poly. (London): Dept. of Arch.), 18 Harefield Road, Hornsey, N.8. T. E. Scott, S. F. Burley, H. Bramhill.

**Hudson: Peter**, Dipl.Arch. (U.C.L.) (Bartlett Sch. of Arch.: Univ. of London), 54 Kingsmere Park, Kingsbury, N.W.9. Prof. H. O. Corfiato, R. C. White-Cooper, Thomas Ritchie.

**Hughes: Alan Philip**, Dip.Arch. (Northern Polytechnic) (Northern Poly. (London): Dept. of Arch.), 16 Cleveland Road, Ealing, W.13. T. E. Scott, A. H. Ley, H. Colbeck.

**Jones: Ieuan Wyn**, B.A.(Arch.) (Lond.) (Bartlett Sch. of Arch.: Univ. of London), Hafod Wen, Crowhill, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, Wales. Prof. H. O. Corfiato, J. R. M. Simpson, D. du R. Aberdeen.

**Klopke: Alan Denis**, Dip.Arch. (U.C.L.) (Bartlett Sch. of Arch.: Univ. of London), 49 Briar Crescent, Northolt, Middlesex. Prof. H. O. Corfiato, R. C. White-Cooper, S. Hyde.

**McCombe: Alan John**, B.A.(Arch.) (Lond.) (Bartlett Sch. of Arch.: Univ. of London), 17 Hadley Ridge, Barnet, Herts. Prof. H. O. Corfiato, R. C. White-Cooper, Thomas Ritchie.

**Mallett: Arthur Edward Leslie** [Special Final], 145 Wemborough Road, Stanmore, Middlesex. W. A. Ross, J. C. Miller, F. J. Searley.

**Maw: Raymond Gordon**, B.Arch. (Dunelm) (King's Coll. (Univ. of Durham), Newcastle upon Tyne, Sch. of Arch.), 16 Whitby Avenue, South Bents, Whitburn, Co. Durham. Prof. W. B. Edwards, S. W. Milburn, J. H. Napper.

**Mitchell: Alan George**, A.A.Dipl. (Arch. Assoc. (London): Sch. of Arch.), 20 Parkview Road, New Eltham, S.E.9. Henry Elder, V. O. Rees, Arthur Korn.

**Mitchell: John Charles**, Dip.Arch. (Northern Polytechnic) (Northern Poly. (London): Dept. of Arch.), Trinity House, Peter Street, Yeovil, Somerset. W. R. Cooper, T. E. Scott, S. F. Burley.

**Morton: John Barron** (Arch. Assoc. (London): Sch. of Arch.), 39 Chisholm Road, East Croydon, Surrey. Henry Elder, A. C. Townsend, Arthur Korn.

**Noake: Paul de Vere**, B.Arch.(Rand) (Passed a qualifying Exam. approved by the I.S.A.A.), 71 Ladbroke Grove, W.11. Applying for nomination by the Council under Bye-law 3(d).

**Page: Charles Jackson**, Dip.Arch. (Northern Polytechnic) (Northern Poly. (London): Dept. of Arch.), 4 Pinner Hill Road, Pinner, Middlesex. W. J. Reed, T. E. Scott, H. Bramhill.

**Price: Gordon Stanley**, B.A.(Arch.) (Lond.) (Bartlett Sch. of Arch.: Univ. of London), 20 Ernest Grove, Beckenham, Kent. Prof. H. O. Corfiato, R. C. White-Cooper, S. Hyde.

**Ray-Jones: Alan**, B.A.(Arch.) (Lond.) (Bartlett Sch. of Arch.: Univ. of London), South Villa, Vale of Health, Hampstead, N.W.3. Prof. H. O. Corfiato, R. C. White-Cooper, Thomas Ritchie.

**Reddie: Edward Graham**, Dip.Arch. (U.C.L.) (Bartlett Sch. of Arch.: Univ. of London), 1 Manor Avenue, Caterham, Surrey. Prof. H. O. Corfiato, R. C. White-Cooper, D. du R. Aberdeen.

**Russell: Walter Hindmarsh**, Dip.Arch., Dip.T.P. (Dunelm) (King's Coll. (Univ. of Durham), Newcastle upon Tyne, Sch. of Arch.), 89 Chelveston Drive, Corby, Northants. Prof. W. B. Edwards, J. H. Napper, Dr. D. R. Harper.

**Salt: Gilbert Edward Barrow** (Northern Poly. (London): Dept. of Arch.), 96 Bridgewater Road, Wembley, Middlesex. T. E. Scott, S. F. Burley, H. Bramhill.

**Schneider: Joannes Jacobus Bernardus** (Passed a qualifying Exam. approved by the I.S.A.A.), 'Highclere', 25 Avenue Road, St. Albans, Herts. G. A. G. Miller, J. F. R. Gooding, K. A. Lloyd.

**Shaw: Philip Colin William**, Dip.Arch. (U.C.L.) (Bartlett Sch. of Arch.: Univ. of London), 'Greenfields', The Park, Cheltenham Spa, Glos. Applying for nomination by the Council under Bye-law 3(d).

**Smart: Edward Kenneth**, Dip.Arch. (Northern Polytechnic) (Northern Poly. (London): Dept. of Arch.), 44 Church Lane, Hornsey, N.8. T. E. Scott, Frankland Dark, F. Q. Farmer.

**Spratley: John Reginald** (Northern Poly. (London): Dept. of Arch.), 127 Nield Road, Hayes, Middlesex. T. E. Scott, H. Bramhill, S. F. Burley.

**Stockley: Eugene Alan**, Dip.Arch. (U.C.L.) (Bartlett Sch. of Arch.: Univ. of London), 24 Highlands Court, Highland Road, S.E.19. Prof. H. O. Corfiato, R. C. White-Cooper, Thomas Ritchie.

**Swales: Kenneth**, Dip.Arch. (Dunelm) (King's Coll. (Univ. of Durham), Newcastle upon Tyne, Sch. of Arch.), 'Sunnyside', 14 Grayson Road, Spennymoor, Co. Durham. Prof. W. B. Edwards, J. H. Napper, G. R. Clayton.

**Thomson: David Arthur**, Dip.Arch. (U.C.L.) (Bartlett Sch. of Arch.: Univ. of London), 'Glenmore', Sanderstead Road, Sanderstead, Surrey. Prof. H. O. Corfiato, R. C. White-Cooper, Thomas Ritchie.

**Topham: Rex**, B.A.(Arch.) (Lond.) (Bartlett Sch. of Arch.: Univ. of London), The Cronk, Shirehampton Road, Stoke Bishop, Bristol, 9. Prof. H. O. Corfiato, S. Hyde, Thomas Ritchie.

**Young: Andrew Graham Howell**, B.Arch. (Dunelm) (King's Coll. (Univ. of Durham), Newcastle upon Tyne, Sch. of Arch.), 'Porth Enys', Stuart Road, Highcliffe-on-Sea, Hants. Prof. W. B. Edwards, Prof. J. S. Allen, J. H. Napper.

#### AS LICENTIATES (5)

**Diggins: Kenneth Harry**, c/o Engineer and Surveyor, Town Hall, Clacton-on-Sea; 4 Trafalgar Road, Clacton-on-Sea. D. W. Clark, P. R. Walker, R. J. Page.

**Gee: Henry George**, c/o London Transport Executive, 55 Broadway, S.W.1; 'Yewmount', Orchard Drive, Chorleywood, Herts. Thomas Bilbow, Stanley Heaps, F. C. Button.

**Jackman: Warwick Graham**, c/o County Architect's Dept., 97 Heavitree Road, Exeter; 1 Victoria Terrace, Shaldon, Nr. Teignmouth. H. V. de C. Hague, J. H. Haughan, Edward Narracott.

**Kidd: Leonard Victor**, 184 Clapham Road, S.W.9; 73 The Warren, Worcester Park, Surrey. Applying for nomination by the Council under Bye-law 3(d).

**Stubington: Thomas Fischer**, M.C., c/o Ministry of Works, Abell House, John Islip Street, Westminster, S.W.1; 'Bindles', Ryde Road, Sea View, Isle of Wight. George Ford, K. E. Black, Michael Tapper.

#### ELECTION: 2 MARCH 1954

An election of candidates for membership will take place on 2 March 1954. The names and addresses of the overseas candidates, with the names of their proposers, are herewith published for the information of members. Notice of any objection or any other communication respecting them must be sent to the Secretary, R.I.B.A., not later than Saturday 20 February 1954.

The names following the applicant's address are those of his proposers.

#### AS FELLOWS (3)

**Hussey: Geoffrey Mark**, Dip.Arch.(C.T.) [A 1942], 6th floor, van der Stel Buildings,

Pretorius Street, Pretoria, S. Africa; 1059 Schoeman Street, Hatfield, Pretoria. Prof. L. W. T. White, C. S. Lodge, Prof. A. L. Meiring.

**Reuben: Reuben Simon** [A 1937], Bombay Electric Supply and Transport Undertaking, Electric House, Fort, Bombay, India; Bode House, Ormiston Road, Apollo Bunder, Fort, Bombay. S. H. Parekar, J. P. J. Bilimoria, H. N. Dallas.

And the following Licentiate who is qualified under Section IV, Clause 4(c) (ii) of the Supplemental Charter of 1925:—

**Pullen: Albert**, Messrs. Palmer and Turner, French Bank Building, D'Almeida Street (G.P.O. Box 771), Singapore, Malaya; Goodwood Park Hotel, Scott Road, Singapore. W. I. Watson, G. L. Wilson, H. L. Bloomfield.

#### AS ASSOCIATES (14)

**Binckes: Graeme David**, B.Arch.(C.T.) (Passed a qualifying Exam. approved by the I.S.A.A.), 508 Permanent Buildings, Paul Kruger Street, Pretoria, S. Africa. Prof. L. W. T. White, O. Pryce Lewis, W. B. T. Newham.

**Brooke: Edward Acton**, B.Arch.(C.T.) (Passed a qualifying Exam. approved by the I.S.A.A.), c/o Messrs. Corrigal Crickmay & Partners, S.A.N.L.A.M. Building, Strand Street, Port Elizabeth, S. Africa. Prof. L. W. T. White, O. Pryce Lewis and applying for nomination by the Council under Bye-law 3(d).

**Coltman: Peter Oakley**, B.Arch. (Rand) (Passed a qualifying Exam. approved by the I.S.A.A.), c/o National Building Research Institute, P.O. Box 395, Pretoria, Transvaal, S. Africa. Applying for nomination by the Council under Bye-law 3(d).

**Densem: Roy Nicol**, Dip.Arch. (Pretoria) (Passed a qualifying Exam. approved by the I.S.A.A.), 414 Permanent Buildings, Paul Kruger Street, Pretoria, Transvaal, S. Africa. G. H. Crickmay, John Innes, Prof. A. L. Meiring.

**Greening: William Trevor**, Dip.Arch. (Rand) (Passed a qualifying Exam. approved by the I.S.A.A.), 32 Twelfth Avenue, Parktown North,

Johannesburg, S. Africa. W. C. Von Berg and applying for nomination by the Council under Bye-law 3(d).

**Hodgetts: Walter Showell**, B.Arch.(C.T.) (Passed a qualifying Exam. approved by the I.S.A.A.), P.O. Box 79, Nairobi, Kenya. Prof. L. W. T. White, O. Pryce Lewis, E. D. Hill.

**Johnston: Hugh**, B.Arch. (Rand) (Passed a qualifying Exam. approved by the I.S.A.A.), c/o Messrs. Erik Todd & Horrell, 44 Southern Life Building, 235 Pretorius Street, Pretoria, S. Africa. Applying for nomination by the Council under Bye-law 3(d).

**Lee: Douglas Herbert**, B.Arch. (McGill), M.Sc. (Illinois) (McGill Univ., Montreal, Canada: Sch. of Arch.), 2286 Clifton Avenue, Montreal 28, P.Q., Canada. E. Forster, N. S. Morris, Allan Johnson.

**Smith: Colin Henry** (Passed a qualifying Exam. approved by the R.A.I.A.), 23 Glen Road, Roseville, Sydney, N.S.W., Australia. Adrian Ashton, F. W. Turner, S. G. Thorp.

**Vallance: Hugh Robert**, A.S.T.C.(Arch.) (Passed a qualifying Exam. approved by the R.A.I.A.), 23 Clifton Road, Clovelly, N.S.W., Australia. Prof. T. E. Towndrow, Prof. Denis Winston, E. L. Thompson.

**Venters: John Mackenzie**, B.Arch. (McGill) (McGill Univ., Montreal, Canada: Sch. of Arch.), 3777 Cote des Neiges, Montreal, P.Q., Canada. Ernest Barott, H. R. Wiggs, J. M. Venters.

**Ward: Richard Norman**, B.Arch. (Auck. N.Z.) (Passed a qualifying Exam. approved by the N.Z.I.A.), 87 Burnley Terrace, Mt. Albert, Auckland, S.W.1, New Zealand. H. L. Massey, Prof. C. R. Knight, Prof. A. C. Light.

**Wicks: George Preston** [Special Final], 9-11 Timber Street, Pietermaritzburg, Natal, S. Africa. D. P. Marshall and applying for nomination by the Council under Bye-law 3(d).

**Wollaston: Harry Vivian** (Passed a qualifying Exam. approved by the R.A.I.A.), Cr. Pittwater Road, and Fern Street, Pymble, Sydney, N.S.W., Australia. Prof. H. I. Ashworth, Adrian Ashton, E. L. Thompson.

of Stafford, Manchester and London, with whom he was responsible for the design of a number of Roman Catholic churches and schools. He afterwards went to H. W. Weedon [F] of Birmingham, designing a number of Odeon cinemas throughout the country, and then to R. T. Longden [F], who had a general practice in Newcastle. Before the war he was works engineer, architect and assistant to the Managing Director of the British Power Boat Company, Southampton. Mr. Price lectured in design, building construction, building quantities and surveying at Staffordshire County and City Technical Colleges.

Mr. Price served in both world wars; in the first in the Royal Navy, in the second in the Royal Marines, rising to the rank of Major. After the war he was with the Ministry of Health, subsequently the Ministry of Local Government and Planning and later on the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, as Regional Architect for parts of Staffordshire and Worcestershire.

**Arthur Bracewell** [A] died on 6 July, aged 67.

Mr. Bracewell served his articles with a Yorkshire firm, meanwhile attending evening classes at Keighley Technical Institute and also some classes at the Royal College of Art. He started in personal practice in 1922, and his son, Mr. A. G. Bracewell, joined him as a partner in 1952 and now carries on the practice. Mr. Bracewell was also architect to the Burgh of Tilioucultry.

His work consisted of public houses in the West Riding in the 1930's; industrial work in Yorkshire and Scotland throughout his practice; housing for the burgh of Tilioucultry; Devonvale Hall, a large public hall in Tilioucultry; and the work of opening up Tilioucultry Glen by an ambitious system of bridges and terraced paths blasted out of the rock face. This work was done by unemployed textile workers organised and led by Mr. Bracewell.

**Paul Phipps** [Retd. F] died on 23 August, aged 73.

Mr. Phipps was educated at Eton and Balliol College, Oxford, and apprenticed to Sir Edwin Lutyens. He spent the earlier part of his career in Canada and the U.S.A., but in 1919 set up a practice in London in partnership with Mr. O. P. Milne [F], which partnership continued until 1924.

Mr. Phipps' best known work is the Seventh Church of Christ Scientist in Wright's Lane, Kensington, which admirably demonstrates his custom of using a single proportion for all details throughout a building. He was also responsible for several other churches of this denomination, for a number of small country houses, for restorations and extensions to such houses as Alderley Park and 4 St. James's Square, for farm buildings at Hever Castle, White Place, Cookham, and the Warren House, Stanbrook.

Mrs. Joyce Grenfell, the actress, is Mr. Phipps' daughter. She has kindly presented a number of his architectural books to the R.I.B.A. Library.

Mr. Oswald P. Milne [F] writes as follows:

'I first met Paul Phipps in the office of (then) Mr. E. L. Lutyens. He was a pupil, having come down from Oxford, and I was an assistant. The staff and pupils were all youthful, and Phipps, with his fund of wit and badinage, animated the merry atmosphere of the office. He had a gift for caricature and was fond of drawing E. L. L. with very round eyes admonishing his young men or showing surprise at their behaviour.

'After he left Lutyens's office he married Miss Langhorne, a sister of Lady Astor, and shortly

## Obituaries

**Alfred John Thraves** [F] died on 15 August, aged 65.

Mr. Thraves was articled to the late John Lamb, and started in personal practice in 1910. For some years, until 1925, he was in partnership with H. H. Dawson, and from 1937 onwards with Mr. Lionel A. Thraves [L], who now continues the practice. Mr. Thraves was responsible for the Nottingham Palais de Danse, several branch banks for Lloyds and National Provincial Banks, for various cinemas and theatres throughout the country, industrial works, factories and motor showrooms, and he also had a considerable domestic practice. From approximately 1943 to 1946 he held a consultative appointment for housing with the Ministry of Health, and he served on the Council of the Nottingham, Derby and Lincoln Society of Architects.

**Frederick George Yorath** [L], Past President of the North Staffordshire Association, died on 15 August, aged 51.

Mr. Yorath was articled to Messrs. Wood and Goldstraw, Tunstall, and studied at the Burslem School of Art and the Burslem Technical School. After twelve years with the

firm, in 1931 he became a partner, and the name of the firm became its present one of Wood, Goldstraw and Yorath.

Mr. Yorath specialised in industrial planning, and was responsible for the design of many new factories and extensions for the manufacture of china, earthenware, sanitary ware, stoneware and tiles. He was a member of the Ceramic Society and lectured before that Society on 'The Planning of Ceramic Factories'. He also wrote a number of pamphlets and papers on the same subject. He was a member of the National Council of the Pottery Industry. Mr. Yorath was instrumental in founding the North Staffordshire Council of the Building Industry and was chairman 1941-42. He was President of the North Staffordshire Architectural Association 1939-41. He was a Freemason, being Master of the Josiah Wedgwood Lodge No. 2214 in 1936, and Provincial Grand Superintendent of Works of Staffordshire 1944.

**Arthur John Price** [A] died on 28 January 1953, aged 52.

Mr. Price studied at the Staffordshire County Technical College and the Wedgwood School of Art and was articled to Messrs. Wood and Goldstraw [A] of Tunstall. He became an Associate in 1926. From 1926 to 1935 he was Chief Assistant to Messrs. Sandy & Norris [F],



afterwards he went to America, where he set up a practice. The 1914 war, however, brought him back to England and to service in the army. After demobilisation in 1919 we were both trying to pick up the threads of civilian life. I had just found an office in Jermyn Street and invited him to share it. We entered into partnership but the interrelation of our work was never very close and after some years we both found it convenient to separate our activities.

'During the years of partnership Phipps designed a number of country houses, and amid a variety of work was included the Seventh Church of Christ Scientist, in Kensington. His work was always informed with good taste and gained a quality from his care over every detail. He carried on his practice in London until, during the last war, he was compelled to give up his work owing to ill-health.

'He was a man of high ideals and principles, and an attractive companion, blessed with an unflinching sense of humour and fun.'

**John Gilbert Pitney Meaden [L]** died on 19 July, aged 74.

Mr. Meaden was articled to Richard Hill [F], who was at one time I. K. Brunel's chief assistant, and on Mr. Hill's death in 1908 he took over the practice. Mr. Meaden was probably best known as being responsible for the restoration of St. Stephen's Church, Walbrook, after its damage in the last war, but he was also architect to St. Nicholas Cole Abbey, Queen Victoria Street, London, to Dr. Barnardo's and other children's homes, and was responsible for extensions to the London chest hospital and for various factories. Mr. Meaden was a Freeman of the City of London and an authority on the history of the city's churches and was intimately connected with the excavation of St. Augustine's Abbey, Canterbury. The detailed plan of the ruins was his work.

**Ernest Reginald Horsburgh [A]** died on 22 July, aged only 44.

Mr. Horsburgh trained at Liverpool University, taking Second Class Honours, and went into partnership with his father, Mr. William P. Horsburgh [F] in 1937. The principal architectural works with which Mr. Ernest Horsburgh was associated were: new head offices for the Blackburn Assurance Co. Ltd., Liverpool; extensions to offices and factory buildings for Meccano Ltd., Liverpool and Speke; offices, customs and passenger accommodation for Coast Lines Limited at Liverpool, London and other ports; hospital and domestic works.

**James Wilfred Rough [A]** died on 6 July 1953, aged 61. He was on his way home to his native New Zealand after a short illness that had necessitated his premature retirement from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government (formerly Town and Country Planning), with whom he had been a Planning Inspector for the last eight years.

Mr. Arthur C. Todd [A] of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, writes as follows:

'Mr. Rough began his career in 1908 as an articled pupil to a New Zealand architect, and came to England in 1914 to widen his experience. In the ensuing war he served with distinction in the Royal Engineers, attaining the rank of Captain.

'He thereafter returned to practice in Auckland, New Zealand, in 1920, again returning to England in 1934. He held appointments with private firms and public bodies, including the Cheshire County Council, the Air Ministry, and the Ministry of Home Security and Home Office for the period of the last war. He was Regional Architect for the Scottish and

North-Eastern Regions, and later Chief Assistant Architect in London.

'Mr. Rough held the Diploma in Town Planning of London University, and was an Associate Member of the Town Planning Institute.

'During his period as a Planning Inspector, he was known through his public contacts for the careful and courteous attention which he gave to all cases presented to him at inquiries, and amongst his colleagues in the Ministry for his balanced judgment and ready help.

'Mr. Rough had a very pleasant personality, and those who enjoyed his personal friendship and confidence had cause to appreciate his loyalty and consistent good humour. His passing is keenly felt.'

**Sir Muirhead Bone, LL.D., D.Litt. [Hon. A]**, died on 21 October, at the age of 77.

Leaving school at 14, Muirhead Bone studied art under Archibald Kay, R.S.A., and under Francis Newbery at the Glasgow School of Art. Although he served three years' articles in architecture, he soon found that his interest lay much more in drawing existing buildings than in designing new ones, and at the age of 18 began his career as an artist. Although he executed some coloured drawings and a large oil painting of the second world war (now in the Imperial War Museum), entitled 'Mine-laying off Iceland', he was almost entirely a black and white artist, etching and dry-point being his favourite media though he also excelled in sepia and pencil work. During 1902 and 1903 some of his London drawings appeared in the ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW. Sir Muirhead was an official war artist in both world wars, his drawings of the second war including many scenes among London's bomb ruins. Well known also are his illustrations to his brother James's book *The London Perambulator*.

Sir Muirhead's knighthood and election as an Honorary Associate of the Institute came in the same year—1937.

**David Barnard Smith [A]** died on 22 September 1953, at the tragically early age of 33. He had been ill at intervals since 1949 and in 1951 was found to be suffering from disseminated sclerosis.

Mr. Smith was studying at the Regent Street Polytechnic before the war, joined up in 1939 and later held a commission in the Commandos and carried out Special Air Service duties. He was demobilised in 1946 and returned to the Polytechnic, being elected an Associate in 1949. In that year he spent a period as assistant to Sir Hugh Casson [F], unhappily curtailed by illness. He later went for a time to Sir Percy Thomas, O.B.E. [F], and then to the Stevenage Development Corporation. In 1951 he had to cease work permanently.

Mr. Smith's mother writes: 'He made a brave effort to get well and loved his work.' We are sure the sympathy of all members will go out to Mr. Smith's parents for their son's life cut short so early.

**Arthur George Reeves [A]** lost his life at the beginning of September in the same yachting accident as Mr. Basil Maxwell Peake [A], whose obituary appeared in the October JOURNAL. He was 39.

Mr. Reeves was born in Dublin but educated at the County School, Bishopshalt, Uxbridge. He was articled to Messrs. Gooderson and Buckley, of Ruislip, and studied at Regent Street Polytechnic. He then went into the employment, first of Messrs. T. P. Bennett & Son, later of Mr. E. C. Kent [A]. From January 1950 to the time of his death he was a part-time lecturer at Hammersmith School of Building and Arts and Crafts. He illustrated

several books, among them *Houses*, by B. T. Richards, published by Messrs. Longmans Green & Co. Ltd. in their 'Men at Work' series.

**Robert Gibson Clark [F]** died on 7 September 1953, aged 56 years.

Mr. Clark studied at Leeds School of Architecture. He was elected Associate in 1927 and began in private practice in Hull in 1931. He had a general practice, including industrial buildings, garages, showrooms, ballrooms, schools, church halls, housing layouts for various local authorities, houses and flats. His son Mr. R. Brian Clark [Student] joined him in partnership in 1950 and now carries on the practice.

**Sir Arnold Thornely [Retd. F]**, architect of the Northern Ireland Parliament Building, Belfast, died on 1 October, aged 83.

Sir Arnold was articled to Mr. Francis Usher Holmes [F] of Liverpool, and most of his early work was in that city; much of it coming to him as the result of success in competitions. He started in practice in 1898. In 1906 he entered into partnership with Messrs. Briggs & Wolstenholme and it was while he was with that partnership and in association with Mr. F. B. Hobbs that the prize-winning design for the head office building of the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board was produced. Other buildings for which, with that partnership, he was responsible are the Blue Coat school and chapel, Wavertree, and Colonial House, Liverpool. With Messrs. Briggs & Wolstenholme he also built the Bank of West Africa, Liverpool, Wallasey and Barnsley Town Halls, new galleries to the Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool, and an engineering laboratory for Liverpool University. With Briggs and F. W. Simon he built the Arts Faculty building for the University of Liverpool, and with Herbert J. Rowse the India Building, Liverpool. Sir Arnold had besides a wide general practice, including private houses and commercial buildings.

He was awarded the R.I.B.A. Architecture Bronze Medal for Ulster in 1933. He was President of the Liverpool Architectural Society 1910-11 and represented that body on Council. He also served on the Competitions Committee.

Mr. Herbert Thearle [F] has contributed the following appreciation of Sir Arnold:

'Many, including a great number of architects, will have regretted to see the announcement of the death of Sir Arnold Thornely. Until the outbreak of the second war he had the kind of architectural practice which came only to those most eminent in our profession. His executed projects were considerable and varied, both in size and character, and embraced a parliament building—the appointment letter for which it was said he took to be an income tax communication and so remained unaware of for some time—town halls, schools and colleges, a variety of university, commercial and hospital buildings; also he carried out a number of houses.

'Perhaps it was in the domestic field—and certainly this type of task appeared to give him greatest pleasure—that he most excelled. The houses in Wirral, including his one-time home at Prenton, are in the best English tradition: delightful homes to enjoy rather than depressing machines to live in! This aptitude he had for designing houses, typical of our island architects, is also evident at Stormont, where the lodges are exceptionally interesting. Apart from his domestic essays, perhaps his most generally successful work is the building for the Arts Faculty which Sir Arnold carried out for Liverpool University; this particular

building in every way holds its own with any erected at any time in the precinct, or indeed outside it.

'About a year ago I visited several of Sir Arnold's projects; in which, through working on them as an articulated pupil in his office, I felt a nostalgic interest. I found them, after thirty years, in good heart—and shape; still more than weatherproof and, despite the trappings so beloved by him and his generation, adding considerable dignity and interest to the Lancashire and Yorkshire towns where they are to be found.

'I feel glad now I wrote telling Sir Arnold of this pilgrimage. In the past, in his busy office which he unflaggingly controlled with kindly efficiency, he was served by many; and I am sure that all who had contact with him will, like myself, feel "the old man's" passing as a very personal loss.'

## Members' Column

*This column is reserved for notices of changes of address, partnership and partnerships vacant or wanted, practices for sale or wanted, office accommodation, and personal notices other than of posts wanted as salaried assistants for which the Institute's Employment Register is maintained.*

### APPOINTMENTS

**Mr. Kenneth Arundel** [A] has resigned his position as Associated Architect with Messrs. Pick, Everard, Keay and Gimson of Leicester, and has been appointed Resident Architect on the Gold Coast, British West Africa, to Messrs. Harrison, Barnes and Hubbard, of London. His new address is Resident Architect, Messrs. Harrison, Barnes and Hubbard, University College of the Gold Coast, Achimota, Gold Coast, West Africa.

**Mr. T. H. Carline**, A.M.T.P.I. [A], has taken up an appointment as Senior Town Planning Officer with the Western Australian State Government and his address is Regional Planning Office, Public Works Department, Malcolm Street, Perth, W.A.

### PRACTICES AND PARTNERSHIPS

**Mr. Edward Armstrong** [F] has retired, owing to ill-health, from the partnership of Messrs. Edward Armstrong and Frederick MacManus. The practice will be continued by **Mr. Frederick MacManus** [F] under the same style, from 28 Gloucester Place, Portman Square, W.1.

**Messrs. Frederick Barber and K. Douglas Bundy** [F/A] have merged their practice with that of **Mr. Bevil Greenfield** [A]. They will continue to practise under the style of **Frederick Barber and Partners**, 5 Apple Market, Kingston-upon-Thames (KINGston 8536), and 173 High Street, Dorking, Surrey (Dorking 4208).

**Mr. W. H. Randall Blacking** [F] and **Mr. Robert Potter** [F], of 21 The Close, Salisbury, have dissolved their partnership. **Mr. Potter** is taking into partnership **Mr. Richard Hare** [A] and moving to De Vaux House, De Vaux Place, Salisbury (Salisbury 5806).

The practice of **Mr. J. A. Bouch** [L] has been merged with that of **Mr. George Williams** [F] and is now being carried on under the style of **Messrs. Williams, Bouch and Co.** from 6 Wright Street, Hull.

**Mr. P. G. Bridge** [L] has taken into partnership **Major J. F. Kennedy** [L]. The firm will practise under the style of **Bridge and Kennedy** at 63 Wigmore Street, W.1.

**Mr. Hugh P. Crallan** [A] has closed his London office and is now practising at 11 Bladud Buildings, Bath.

**Mr. Phillip D. Friend** [A] has commenced practice at 5a Joy Street, Barnstaple, North Devon, where he will be pleased to receive trade catalogues, etc.

**Mr. Jack Godfrey-Gilbert** [A] has opened an office at 1a Linden Gardens, Bayswater Road, W.2, and will be pleased to receive trade catalogues, etc. (BAYswater 1540).

**Mr. G. Forsyth Lawson** [L], previously in practice with **Mr. Douglas Hilton** [A], has taken into partnership **Mr. C. J. Cunningham** [A] and the practice will now be carried on under the style of **Forsyth Lawson, Cunningham and Partners**, from the same address, 30 Horse Fair, Banbury, Oxon. (Banbury 3263). **Mr. Hilton** continues to be a member of the firm.

**Mr. H. Lynch-Robinson** [A] has taken into partnership **Mr. Robert McKinstry** [A] and the practice will continue at 7 May Street, Belfast, under the style of **Lynch-Robinson and McKinstry**.

**Mr. C. Antony Parker** [A] has commenced practice at St. Peter's Chambers, 47 Silver Street, Lincoln (Lincoln 11371), where he will be pleased to receive trade catalogues, technical data, etc.

**Mr. H. Geoffrey Round** [A] has commenced private practice at 53 Oxford Street, Weston-super-Mare (Weston-super-Mare 617), and will be pleased to receive trade catalogues, etc.

**Mrs. E. H. Shipman**, D.A. (Edin.) [A], has commenced practice at 6 Maxwell Place, Stirling, where she will be pleased to receive trade catalogues, etc.

**Mr. Kenneth J. Steel** [A] is now in practice at 7 The Crescent, Taunton, where he will be pleased to receive trade catalogues, etc.

### CHANGES OF ADDRESS

**Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Belchamber** (Miss Olive More) [A/A] have removed to 5 Walpole Road, Malindela, Bulawayo, Southern Rhodesia.

**Mr. Norman Brown**, A.R.I.C.S. [A], has removed to 27 Beaufort Road, Kingston, Surrey.

**Messrs. W. D'Arcy Cathcart and Son** [F/A] have changed their office address to 43 Gordon Avenue, Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia. The P.O. Box 138 and telephone number 24661 remain unchanged.

**Mr. and Mrs. Rigby Childs** [A/A] have removed their practice to 33 Welbeck Street, London, W.1, to which address all correspondence should now be sent (WELbeck 1681-2).

Following his resignation from the post of Chief Industrial Officer of The Council of Industrial Design to devote more time to the study of modular co-ordination and to resume his private practice, the addresses of **Mr. Mark Hartland Thomas**, O.B.E. [F], are The Modular Society, 22 Buckingham Street, Strand, W.C.2 (TRAlfalgat 4567), and The Old Bakery, Forge Lane, Upchurch, Sittingbourne, Kent.

The new address of **Mr. C. B. Moss** [A] is 22 Quinn Street, Toowong, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia.

**Messrs. Gordon Payne and Preece** [A] of Gloucester have now moved to 'Rockleigh House', 67 London Road, Gloucester. The

telephone number, Gloucester 24471, remains unchanged.

The new private address of **Mr. E. J. Preece** [A] is 'Appleston', Gloucester Road, Cheltenham (Cheltenham 56185).

The London office of **Mr. Allan D. Reid** [F] has been moved to 13 Welbeck Street, London, W.1. The telephone number (WELbeck 0882) remains unchanged.

**Lieut.-Colonel Geoffrey R. Shires**, M.B.E., M.C. [A], has changed his office address to 249 Abbey House, Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W.1 (ABBY 4909).

The present address of **Mr. John H. Snowden** [A] is Fairhaven, Heath Road, Upton-by-Chester, Cheshire.

**Messrs. White-Cooper and Turner** [FF] have removed from Amberley House, Norfolk Street, Strand, W.C.2, to 4 Verulam Buildings, Gray's Inn, W.C.1.

**Mr. Fredk. E. Wilkins** [L] has now removed to 460A Fore Street, Edmonton, N.9 (EDMonton 7318), and will be pleased to receive trade catalogues, etc.

### PRACTICES AND PARTNERSHIPS WANTED AND AVAILABLE

Small practice wanted to purchase in York Northallerton, Malton, Harrogate, Filey, Hornsea or Tadcaster districts. Please state terms to Box 75, c/o Secretary, R.I.B.A.

Associate, 48, experienced, suitable personality, some financial resources, requires partnership in Tunbridge Wells or neighbourhood. Box 76, c/o Secretary, R.I.B.A.

Associate, A.M.T.P.I., school trained, varied experience, with capital, aged 30, requires partnership with older established architect. London or North Midlands preferred owing to existing connections but other areas considered. Box 84, c/o Secretary, R.I.B.A.

Associate (A.A.Dipl.), aged 33, with varied experience extending over 16 years of private and public architecture, seeks to purchase a partnership in an office with contemporary outlook, preferably in west or south of England. Box 85, c/o Secretary, R.I.B.A.

### MISCELLANEOUS

**Mr. N. S. Bean** [A] would be pleased to receive technical information with regard to laboratory buildings and schools at his Kenya address, which is Architects' Department, P.W.D., P.O. Box 662, Nairobi.

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